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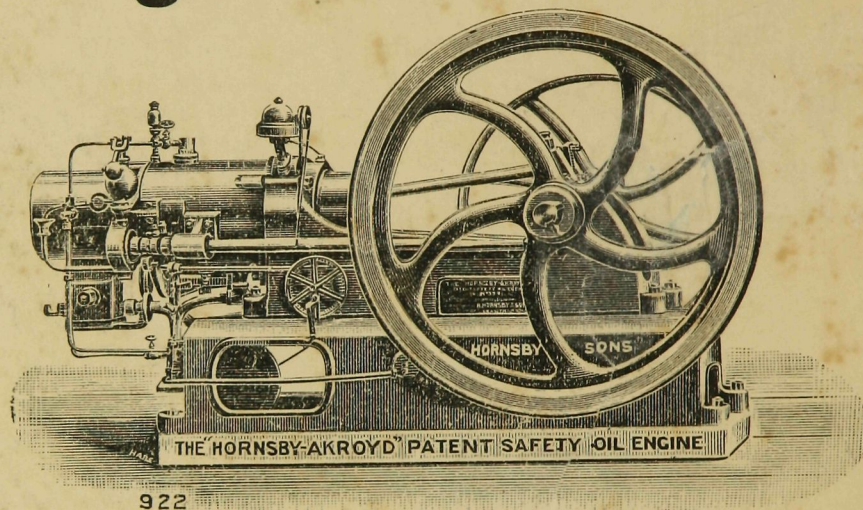
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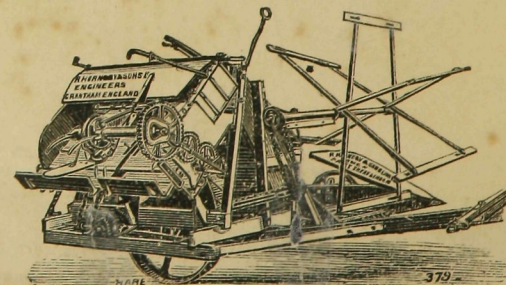
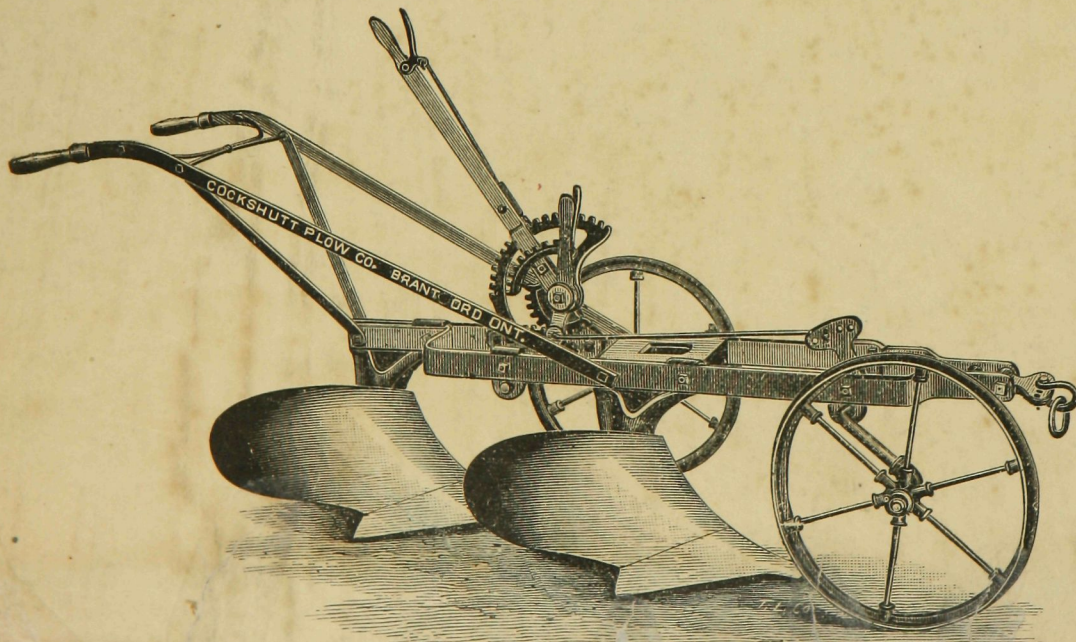
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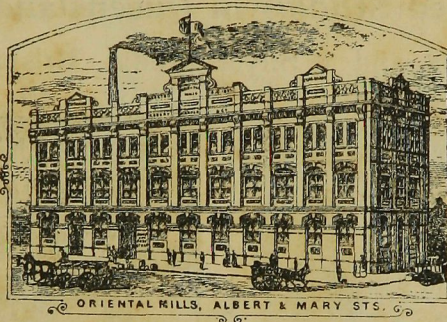
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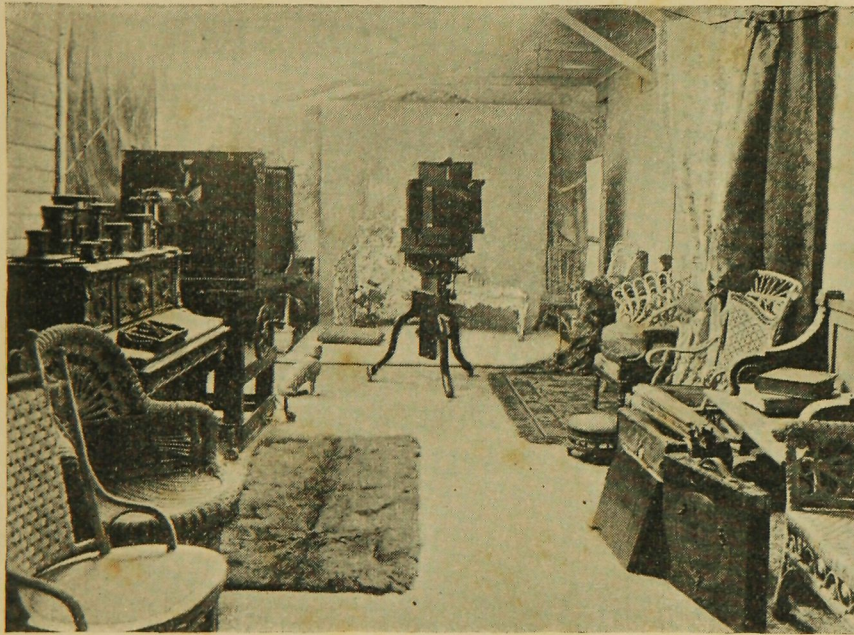
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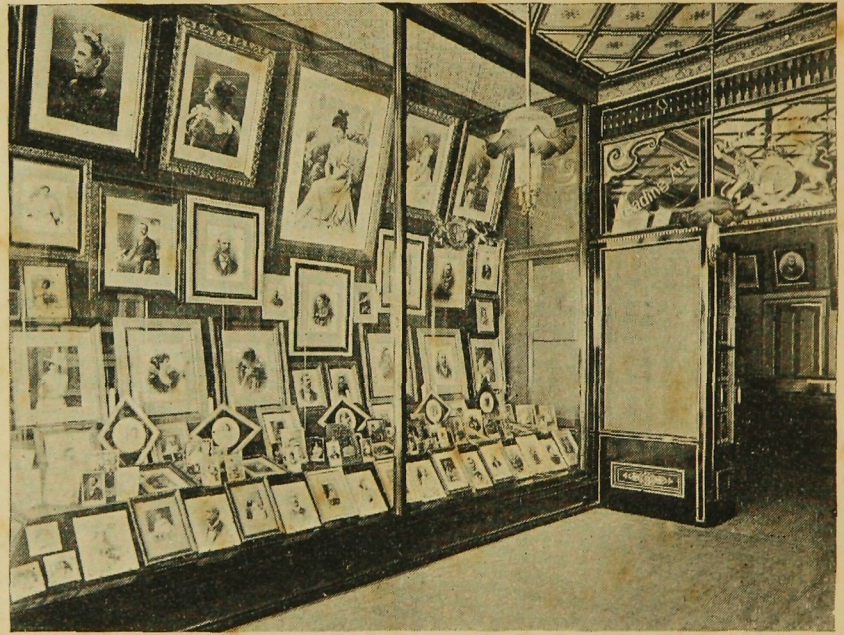
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THE PEOPLE, PRODUCTS, AND  
❧ INDUSTRIES ❧

... OF ...

WEST ❧ MORETON,  
QUEENSLAND,

Being a brief account of the Progress and Resources  
of the District.

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1899

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## ❧ PREFACE. ❧

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QUEENSLAND, a North-Eastern province of the Australian continent, with a present population of under half-a-million, and an area of about 670,000 square miles, offers an excellent field for immigration. It has a good and healthy climate and magnificent varied resources, which need more population to properly develop them. There is in vogue, throughout the colony, a splendid system of national education which is free to all classes. The terms on which intending emigrants may reach the colony are fully set forth on another page of this book, under the heading "Emigration to Queensland." This little work deals with the West Moreton District, which is situated in the South-Eastern portion of the Colony—between the mountain ranges and the sea—and is populated with settlers engaged in agricultural, pastoral, mining, manufacturing, and other pursuits. Many persons have devoted their attention to agriculture, and have made comfortable homes in this new land of sunshine and prosperity. What is recorded in this brochure is merely typical of what may be seen by any observant person who travels through the district. And what has been done by residents of some years' standing may also be done by others who may follow them.



## ❧ INTRODUCTION. ❧

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**W**EST MORETON is a district in the South-Eastern portion of Queensland, lying between the Main Range and the seaboard. It comprises the six Parliamentary electorates of Ipswich, Bundamba, Stanley, Lockyer, Rosewood, and Fassifern. Geographically considered, a portion of the Burnett electorate also belongs to it. The Ipswich constituency returns two members to the Queensland Parliament, and each of the others one member. The West Moreton district, therefore, returns seven of the 72 legislators who form the popular Chamber of the colony. Ipswich, which is the oldest of Queensland towns, is practically the "capital" of the West Moreton district. It is 24 miles from Brisbane, the metropolis, and is connected with it by rail and by water. The population of the West Moreton district may be set down at about 35,000 or 40,000, and that of Ipswich (which is included in the figures mentioned) and its suburbs, at about 11,000 or 12,000. Prior to 1828 Captain Logan, of the Moreton Bay penal depôt, traced the Brisbane River to its confluence with the Bremer, and set about the work of lime-burning on the banks of the latter stream, near where the busy provincial town of

Ipswich now stands. In 1842 Sir George Gipps, then Governor of New South Wales, examined the lime-burning settlement, and it was chosen as the site for the town of Ipswich. In 1846 the population numbered 64 males and 36 females, whereas now—a half a century later—the town, with its immediate suburbs, has a population of some 11,000 or 12,000, and is the centre of a prosperous settlement, the population of which, as already stated, borders on 40,000. Ipswich has the distinction of being one of the chief manufacturing towns in the colony, and the woollen factory, which has for many years been established here, sends woollen and worsted goods to all parts of Queensland, and furnishes employment for about 500 hands.

Ipswich is also the head centre of the Queensland coal trade, and the railway workshops—employing between 200 and 300 men—are located here. The great seaboard railway, which runs from Adelaide, in South Australia, to Gladstone, in Central Queensland (connecting Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane) passes through Ipswich. Two branch lines also converge upon the Ipswich railway station, one passing for about 42 miles through agricultural and pastoral country, and ter-

minating at the township of Esk; and the other, running for about the same distance through similar country, to the Dugandan township. Ipswich owes much of its stability to the splendid agricultural and pastoral country which surrounds it, and which is tapped by these two branch railways and the main trunk line referred to above.

West Moreton is emphatically the home of the agriculturist. True, in the early days of its history it was more pastoral than agricultural in its interests. Those were the days when wool was king. All the finest country was devoted to grazing, and the squatters foregathered in Ipswich and spent their cheques in right royal fashion. But it was against all principles of political economy that such splendid agricultural land, within easy reach of a market, should be utilised for grazing purposes only. So there came about a natural transition from the station to the farm. Many of the large pastoral holdings were cut into smaller sections, and the squatter gave place to the farmer and the grazier. This development is still going on, and whenever some of the large estates have been repurchased, or resumed, by the Government, and made available for close settlement, the areas comprised within



them have been readily selected by the agriculturist or grazier.

Among the population are many who have come from the Old Land, and whose energy and enterprise have enabled them to make comfortable homes for themselves in this sunny land of the South. With a large proportion of these settlers the pioneering days were days of difficulty and self-sacrifice, but British pluck and perseverance triumphed, and the colonist who has been successful is naturally proud of the home which he has acquired, and in which he can spend his last days in peace and comfort. Of course, many Queenslanders are still waging war with initial difficulties, but the prospect of

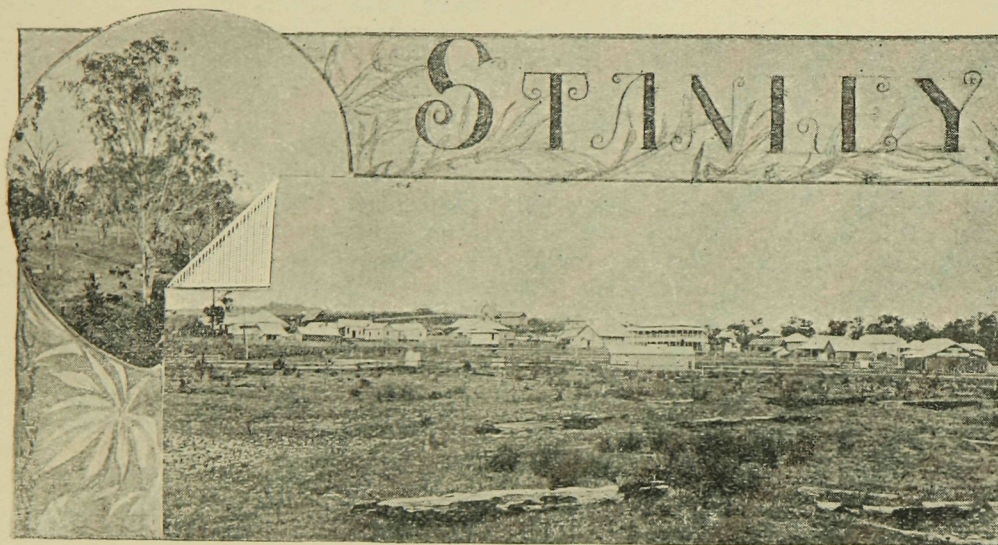
eventual success is ever a stimulating hope.

The impetus that has been given to the dairying industry, during the past few years, is one of the most encouraging developments of the time. The pioneer selector milked a few cows for his own use, but did not engage in dairying as a special industry. Then came a time when the housewife made her own butter and sold it to the storekeeper, thus adding to the profits of the farm. But that is past history. Now the hum of the milk-separator is heard in the land. Central factories and creameries have sprung up all over the district, and factory-made butter has almost wholly superseded the

article made on the farm. Cheese factories have also been established in leading agricultural centres. All this has greatly benefited the producer, who finds dairying a paying industry and one which brings him in a sure and regular income. The Government has been very sympathetic to the agriculturist, and has established a State Department of Agriculture to look after his interests. What has been done in a district like West Moreton is typical of what may be done in other parts of Queensland. The magnificent resources of the colony give scope for the man with enterprise and a little capital to make for himself and family a comfortable home anywhere within its boundaries.





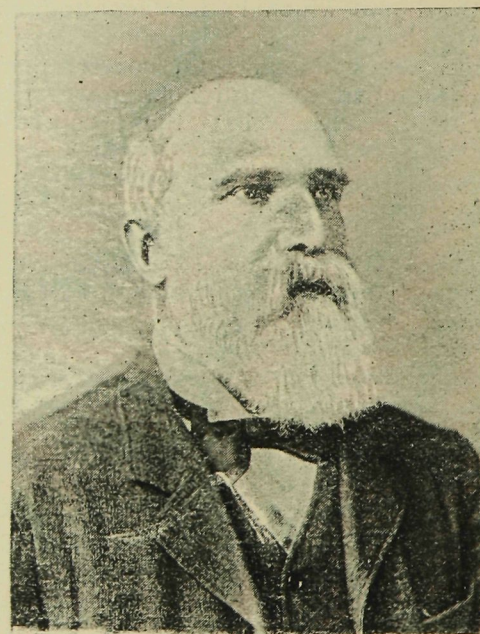


View of Lowood Township.

**T**HE Stanley Electorate lies away to the north-west of Ipswich. It has an approximate area of 1650 square miles, or 1,056,000 acres. This piece of country embraces some of the best land in the colony, much of it being particularly adapted for both pastoral and agricultural occupations. In support of the former assertion, allusion need only be made to the very large number of splendidly topped fat cattle which are annually turned off the rich and well-watered pasture holdings in the neighbourhood of the water-shed of the Brisbane and Stanley Rivers; whilst, in proof of the latter statement, there are the periodical heavy yields of maize and fodder, which give to the growers a remunerative return for their labour. As

yet, it is true, the area of land under cultivation in the district is comparatively small. Cattle-fattening and dairying are the two principal industrial features. With the latter, of course, is combined pig-raising, and amongst the smaller land-owners these two pursuits bid fair to become their chief means of livelihood. On the river flats and the favoured portions of the scrub land, agriculture is engaged in with evident success. There are, however, hundreds upon hundreds of acres of good agricultural land locked up in the several large pastoral estates. Sooner or later, by the operation of the provisions of the Agricultural Lands Purchase Act, or by some other means, these areas will be made available for close settlement. With

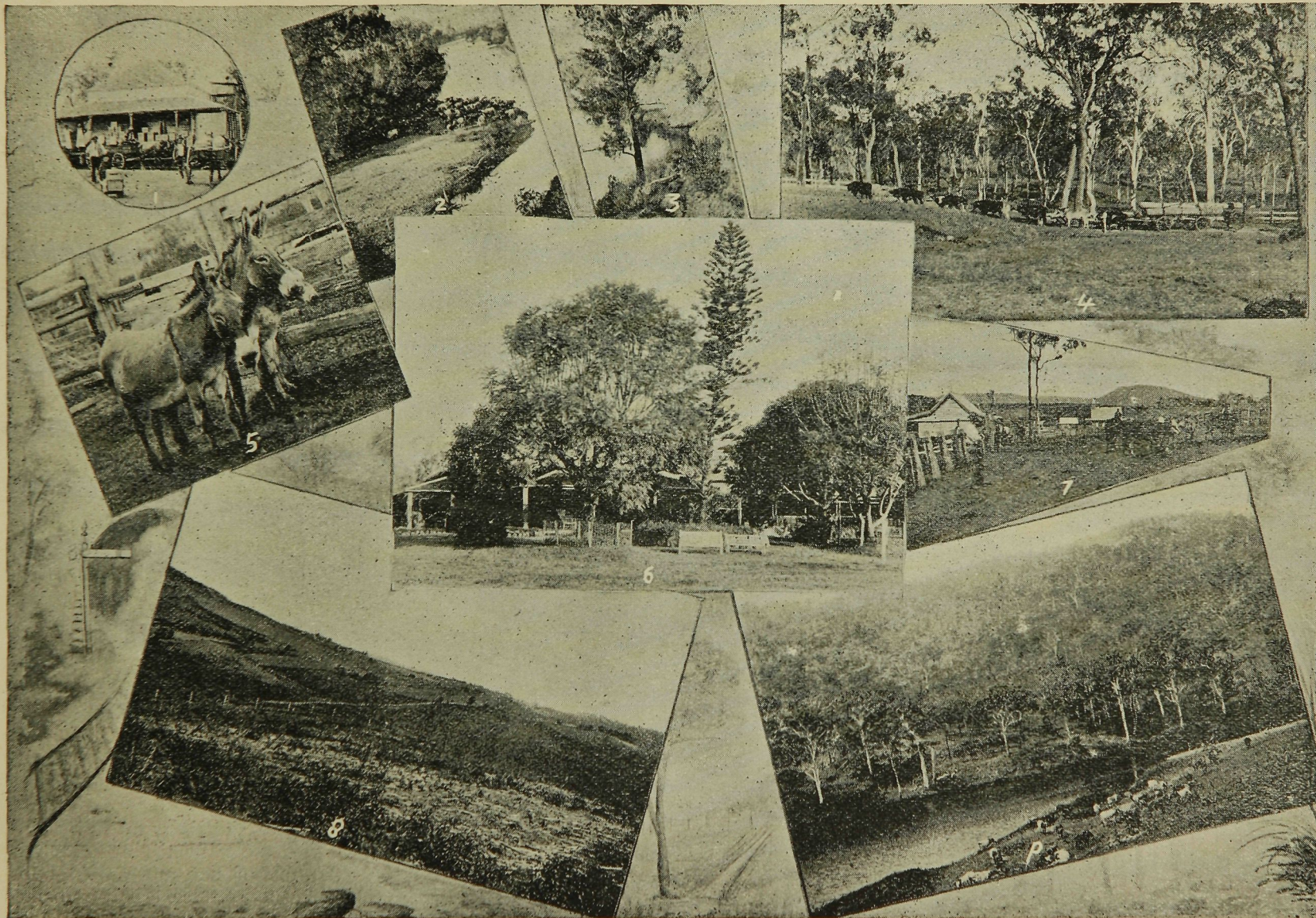
this prospect in view, there is every promise of a bright future for the district, which encircles the beautiful fertile lands of the Brisbane River valley. Timber-getting is also another industry which affords employment for a considerable number of men. The slopes of many of the mountain ranges, which are plainly visible from Esk, are heavily timbered with lofty, large-girthed cypress pine



Mr. F. Lord, M.L.A., Stanley Electorate.

trees, and these are readily marketable in Brisbane and Ipswich. The trees are taken into Esk in the log on substantially built wagons drawn by oxen, and then put upon





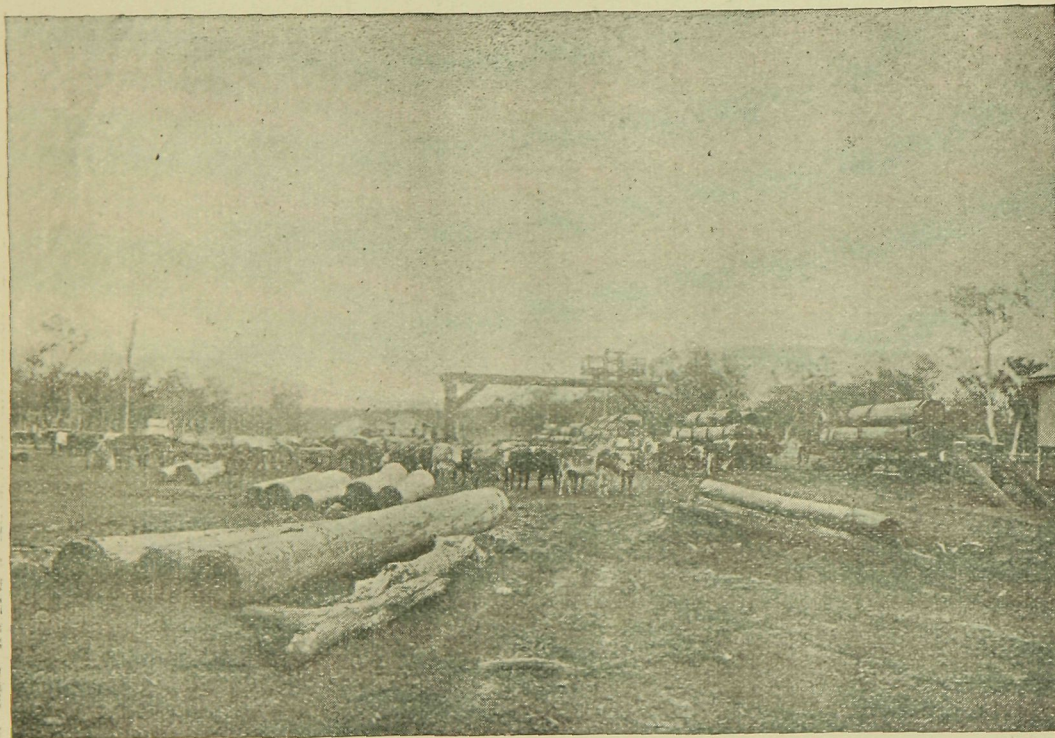
1. Lowood Butter Factory. 2 and 3. Brisbane River scenes. 4. Laden timber waggon. 5. Buaraba Station donkeys. 6. Colinton Station house.  
7. View at Mt. Beppo. 8 and 9. Farm scenes.



specially built trucks, and are conveyed to their destination by rail. The accompanying illustration, showing the operation of loading the logs at the Esk railway station, will give some idea of the activity which prevails in this particular enterprise.

which is distant between five and six miles in a northerly direction. It enjoys the distinction of forming the home of several of the pioneer farmers of the colony, and is one of the many picturesque centres which exist in West Moreton. The farms are

of several hundred feet, and from its summit—from which a fine view of the surrounding country may be obtained—Ipswich and several small townships can be distinctly seen. Those farmers grouped about the base of the mount confined their operations almost exclusively to maize and potato growing till about five or six years ago, and the aggregate yield of these products for the last 20 years would represent many thousands of tons. Of late years, however, the residents here, in common with those of every other rural centre in the district, have



Loading timber at Esk Railway Station.

Apart from the farming operations carried on at what is known as the Old Racecourse, immediately on the outskirts of Ipswich, the agricultural centre closest to the town is the Pine Mountain district,

sectioned off on the gently undulating country to the west of the mountain. The latter, which derived its name from the fact that it was originally thickly timbered with cypress pine trees, towers to a height

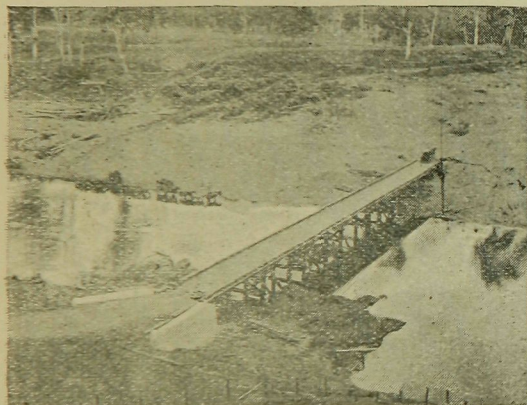


Husking maize.

launched out into the dairying industry, and with the most gratifying results. Within a radius of not more than two miles there are now at least half-a-dozen cream separators. Several of these are owned by the proprietors of the North Ipswich Butter Factory, who allow those using the separators so much for their



work. The immediate neighbours convey the milk obtained from their cows to the persons holding the separators, where the



Mt. Crosby waterworks bridge.

cream is extracted and forwarded to the factory by rail, payment being made by test. The suppliers are entitled to the return of the skimmed milk, with which they feed their pigs. Thanks to the enterprise of the company in placing a separator at every central place in this part of the district, none of the suppliers have any great distance to travel with the milk; and in most instances the younger members of the family are entrusted with the task of taking it to the creameries prior to going to school in the morning.

One of the dairymen in this neighbourhood, who resides about 10 miles from Ipswich, is Mr. Stephen Marsh, and the record of his success since the new method of butter-making came into operation will serve as an illustration of

the benefit which has accrued all round. His property, which comprises in all about 2000 acres, is situated on one of the upper reaches of the Brisbane River, and he has consequently the advantage of a permanent supply of beautifully clear water. The greater portion of the land is mountainous country, but is, nevertheless, admirably adapted as a run for his cattle. On the western side of the river there is an extensive flat specially adapted for agriculture. Mr. Marsh, however, utilises this as a fattening paddock. The residential quarters, which are capacious and comfortable, are located at the foot of one of the spurs of the Cabbage Tree Ranges. Some distance to the rear are the cow yards and sheds—all of which are substantially built. In the early months of



Scene at Lowood.

this year 100 cows were being milked daily—about 60 of them twice a day. The work of milking devolves upon Mr.

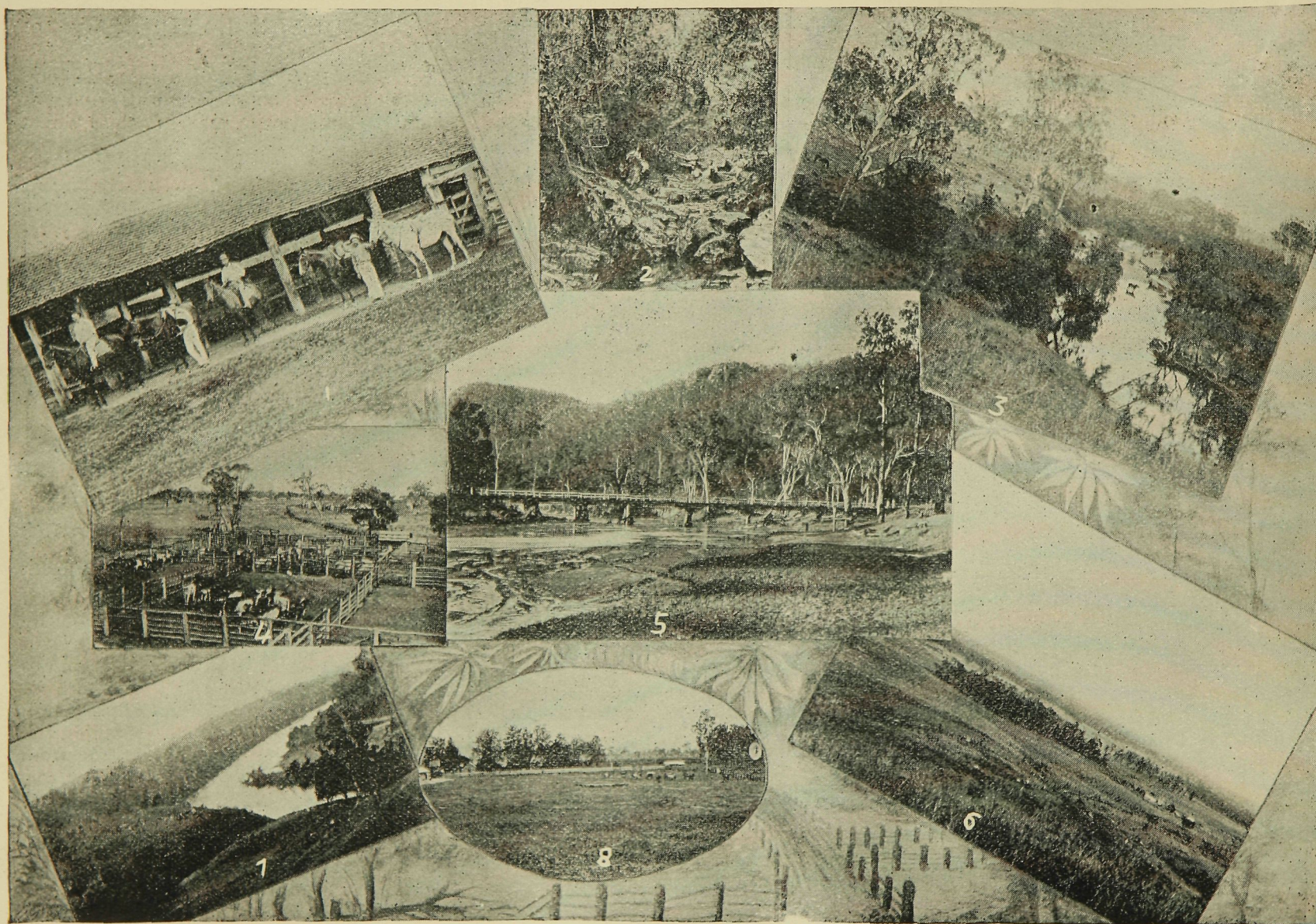
Marsh's daughters and one male employee. They commence operations at an early hour in the morning, and whilst



Pulling maize.

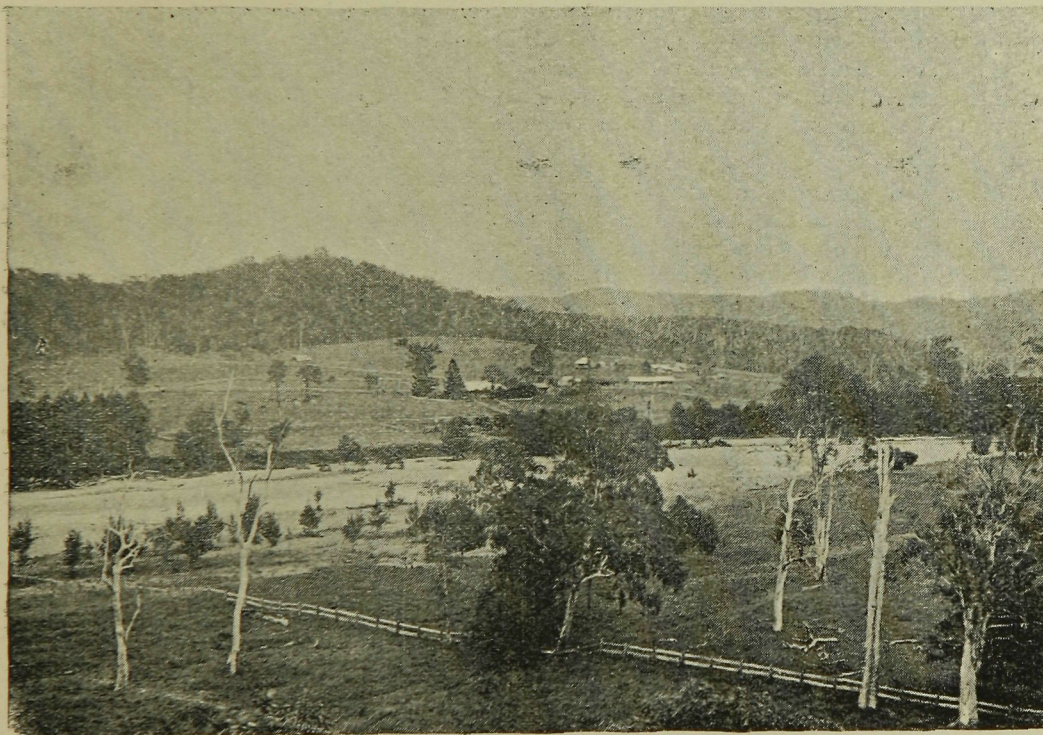
thus engaged Mr. Marsh himself is busy in putting the milk through a hand separator; and by half-past 8 a.m. the whole work is completed, and the cream is canned in readiness to be dispatched to the butter factory. For the month of January the cream sold by Mr. Marsh realised upwards of £30, and, taking the year through, his monthly income from that source averages from £25 to £27 10s. When it is mentioned that the calves are allowed to run with their mothers for a certain time each day until they are weaned, and that the cows have nothing but the natural grasses to feed on, it will be admitted that the results stated are especially gratifying. On the smaller holdings—those of 80 to 100 acres—the farmers grow fodder for their cows, and





1. Buaraba Station stables. 2. Cooeimbardi Gully. 3. Upper Brisbane River scene. 4. Dairyman's stockyard. 5. Esk bridge.  
6 and 7. Brisbane River Valley scenes. 8. Bellevue Station.





Buaraba Station headquarters.

their takings for cream are, perhaps, proportionately greater. Nevertheless, the Marsh family may be cited as but one of numerous instances where industrious and systematic labour has reaped a handsome reward. As a convenience in times of flood, Mr. Marsh has provided himself with a very ingenious device for getting his cans across the river, so that he might ensure the cream reaching the railway station for consignment to the factory.

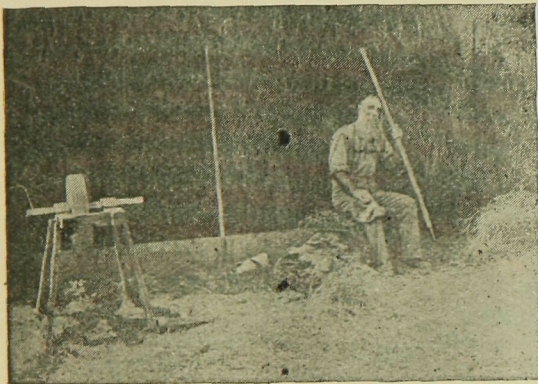
At a place only a short distance from his private residence he has had a stout steel rope stretched from one bank to the other. It is fastened securely at either end to huge gum trees, and the centre of it is fully 60ft. above the ordinary water level. "The Suspension Cream Bridge," as it is generally termed, is 210ft. long. From it is suspended a large cage capable of carrying five cans, each containing 10 gallons of cream. The cage

is attached by means of a swivel to a double wheel which overlaps and runs along the wire, and it is drawn from side to side by the aid of a windlass. In flood time one member of the family takes up his abode in a building erected for the purpose on the railway side of the river, and thus the cream is consigned to the factory with the same regularity as if normal weather conditions prevailed.

So much for the dairying industry in this quarter; but what success, it might justly be asked, has attended the efforts of those who have devoted most of their time to agricultural pursuits? The answer is eminently satisfactory. Evidence of this is to be had in the many well-built and comfortably-furnished houses to be seen throughout the district, the general contentment of the residents, and the prolific crops. A gentleman who is competent to speak upon this matter is Mr. J. T. Hill, the oldest resident of the Pine Mountain district. It is 33 years since he took up his abode in this part of the district, and he candidly admits that he has never had reason to regret having done so. He is a native of Outwell, Norfolk, England, where he engaged in farming prior to embarking for Queensland. Whatever may be the drawbacks to farming in West Moreton—and there are admittedly some—it is an occupation which, he asserts, he would much rather engage in in Queensland than in the old country. To use Mr. Hill's own words—"Why, whereas only one person out of a thousand may succeed in the old land, everyone who has a mind to can do so here. I have been here for over 30 years, and I can honestly say that what I believe we want is to have many more



thousands of people settled on our lands. You see, we get two springs here, and if one crop should fail us we have a chance of getting another later on in the year." Mr. Hill has been a very large grower of cereals. For the most part he has converted the



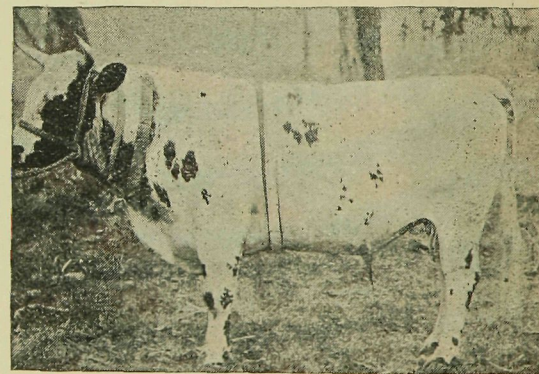
Mr. J. T. Hill, of Pine Mountain.

straw into chaff at the proper stage of growth for so doing. At times, however, he has allowed the grain to mature for experimental purposes, and as a result he is satisfied that oats and other cereals can, with the requisite care, be grown here quite as successfully as in the mother land. He has grown oats which have attained a height of 9ft. 6in., and which have then been as succulent as it would be possible to get them. Of wheat he has had a yield of 30 bushels to the acre, and his barley crops have been all that could be desired. His hay is converted into chaff by steam power, and is delivered direct from the machine into bales by

means of an elevator of his own construction. Of the adaptability of the land here for fruit growing of the citrus tribe proof is given by the large crops which Mr. Hill has obtained. He has secured as much as 40 dozen oranges from one tree.

Within a distance of about four miles from the Pine Mountain post-office there is an excellent piece of agricultural land abutting on the Brisbane River. It is a level block of country lying in the valley formed by the surrounding ridges. Originally it formed part of the late Major North's estate, and for many years was used as portion of a cattle run. Later, however, it was utilised as the cultivation paddock for the head station. About 10 years ago it was cut up into areas of from 40 to 50 acres, and these blocks were readily snapped up at prices ranging from £8 to £10 per acre. Ever since then the land has been cultivated by the new owners, and with what success is testified to by the fact that each of them has paid the whole of the purchase money and now proudly speaks of the farm as his own freehold. Portions of the land have, it is said, yielded as much as 80 bushels of maize to the acre, and the average results are correspondingly high. In one season a settler here obtained £200 for his crop of potatoes. On each holding a comfortable dwelling has been erected, and in themselves the tenants form a thriving little community. The beautiful appearance presented by this fertile spot when viewed from a distance will give some idea of the luxuriant nature of the crops which it produces. Overlooking this splendid patch of cultivation from the

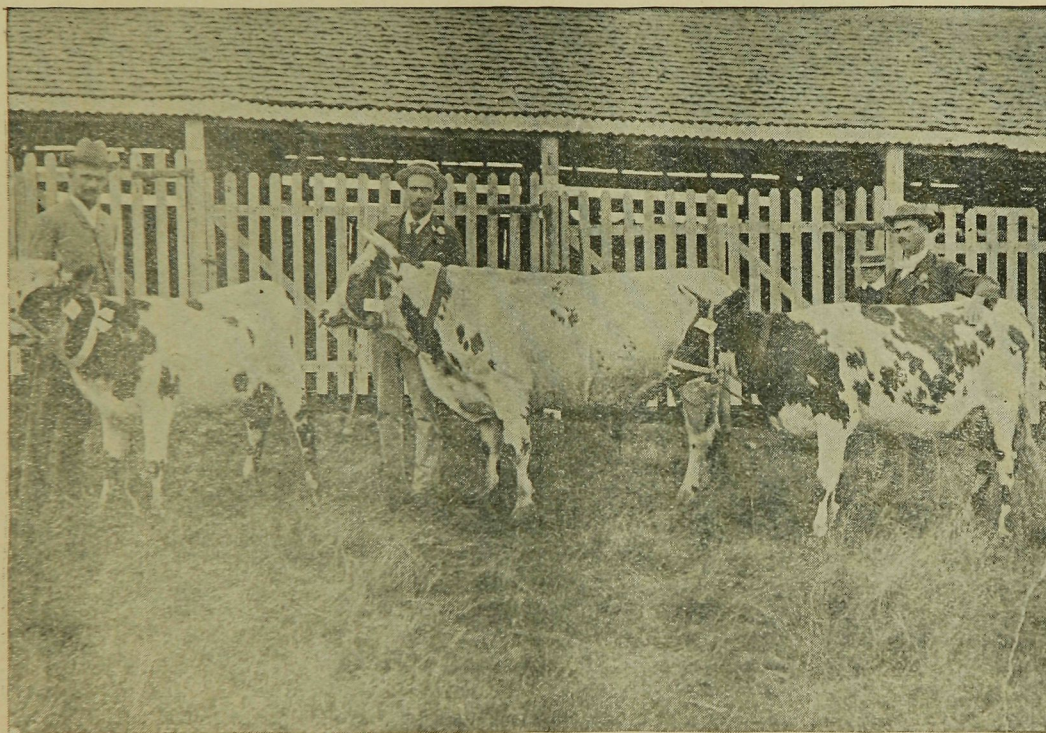
western ridge is the house of Messrs. Arthur and Harry Paten, two young but successful dairymen. Formerly they had a milk run in the city of Brisbane, the capital of the colony. Nine years or so ago they speculated in a block of 640 acres of the North Estate, and to-day, as the outcome of intelligent and persistent effort, they are on the road to prosperity. Their dairy herd is the admiration of all who visit the locality, and the envy of the envious. For dairying purposes they are great believers in the Ayrshire breed of cattle, and their Ayrshire bull Leander (a portrait of which is given in this work) is



Paten Bros.' Ayrshire bull.

a beautiful animal. He is only a little over two years old, and last year (1898) he appropriated not fewer than 10 prizes. Of these, two were specials, one a champion and another a first, obtained at the Queensland National Association's Annual Exhibition—the most important exhibition





Paten Bros.' Ayrshire heifers.

held in the colony. The cattle are fed regularly with fodder grown on the estate, and the cream is extracted from the milk by means of a cream separator. The residuum forms a splendid food for the pigs, of which a goodly number are here kept. Several of the neighbours also bring their milk to the Messrs. Paten to be separated, and some of them are doing remarkably well. For example, one dairyman who milks 30 cows daily, and the milk produced

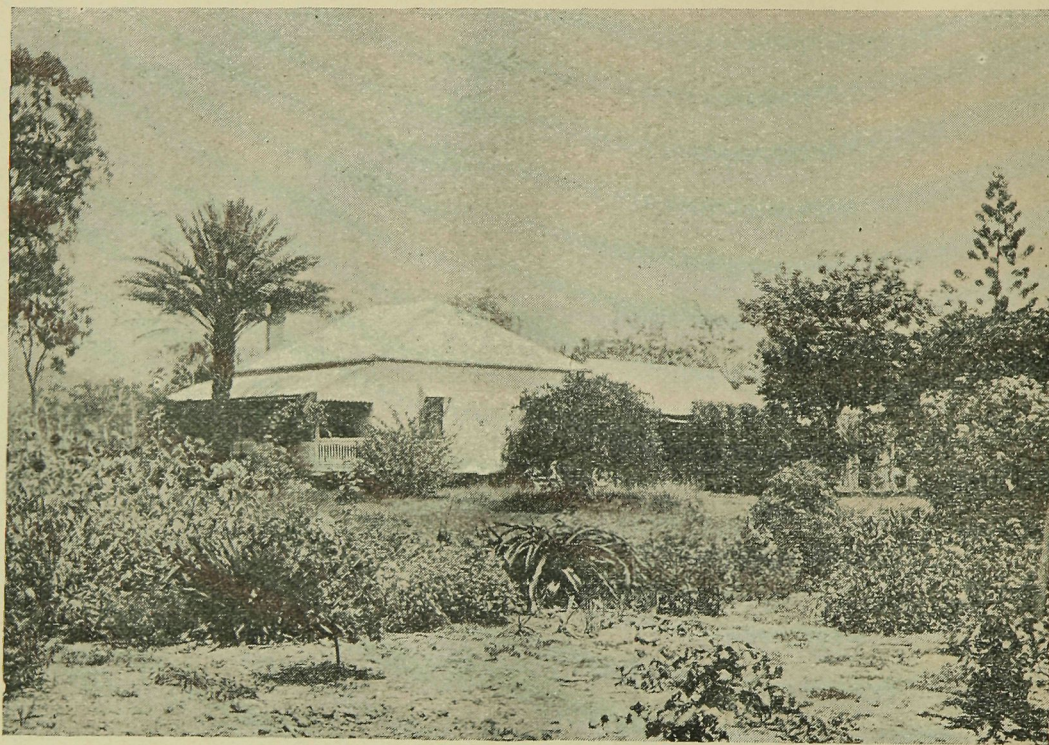
by which contains on an average 4 per cent. of butter-fat, derives a regular monthly income from this source of from £11 to £12.

Between the Messrs. Paten's holding and Fairney View railway station is a stretch of country timbered with bloodwood, ironbark, and gum trees. On the ridge separating the latter place from Fernvale are some pretty farms, whose owners, like many others in the district, bear testimony to the boon that the establishment of

the central creameries has conferred upon them. Fernvale is a fair-sized township on the Brisbane Valley railway line, and is about 16 miles from Ipswich. It is the commercial centre of a community of farmers and timber-getters. At one time the timber trade here was very extensive, and even now a considerable quantity of timber is consigned from the township. Of late years the town has mainly depended upon the surrounding farmers for its support. Several of the latter are settled in what is known as the Wivenhoe Pocket, about three miles distant from Fernvale, and on the opposite side of the river. Most of the residents here are old colonists, and there are few of them who are not in comfortable circumstances. Indeed, a number of them have made a competence off the land, which at this place forms a sort of pocket bounded on three sides by the Brisbane River. For many years the principal crops have been horse-fodder—lucerne and oats for the most part—and the large yields obtained have given splendid monetary returns to the farmers. As an exemplification of the fertility of the soil on the bank of the river, it may be mentioned that there is a paddock of  $9\frac{3}{4}$  acres which is now under lucerne. The crop is cut monthly, and each cutting gives a yield of from 12 to 13 tons. In 12 months, therefore, the aggregate yield from this comparatively small plot would reach 144 tons, which, at 30s. per ton—a rather low average, by the way—would give the handsome return of £216. This is but one instance of the wonderfully productive character of the soil in the vicinity of Fernvale, and of the profitable character of farming when conducted on systematic and intelligent lines. Other



instances could be cited indicative of what has been done by the fortunate owners of land in this locality. Some of them have admittedly accumulated a very respectable sum, and have long since retired from active work. They have either rented their holdings to tenants or have handed them over to their sons to manage for themselves. One of the largest land-owners is said to have made as much as £1000 in one year from his lucerne crops alone. Another agriculturist who resides some distance from this farm and works it exclusively with paid labour nets a very good sum annually by the sale of horse fodder, which is grown and chaffed on the premises. A chat with some of the oldest settlers would soon convince the most sceptical that the life of a farmer in this neighbourhood, although occasionally presenting its bitter side, has its compensating sweetness. Here is the testimony of one of these (Mr. John Jones) on this point—"Was I farming in the old country? Yes, in Herefordshire, my native home. Why did I give it up? you ask. Simply because I did not make it pay. I was losing £100 a year. I came here and settled down 33 years ago. In all, I have 300 acres. I have only had 20 acres under cultivation, believing that it is better not to attempt too much; that area I farmed properly, and never had a yield of less than 30 bushels of maize to the acre. The balance of my land I set apart for grazing purposes. I have certainly done well. You see me as I am now. I have let my farm and I live at my ease." What testimony more eloquent than this could be given in illustration of the prosperous condition to which the industrious and practical farmer may attain



Mr. John Jones's residence, Wivenhoe Pocket.

in West Moreton? Mr. Jones's home is roomy, well ventilated, and neatly furnished. In front of his pretty cottage is a beautiful grass lawn, set here and there with tastefully-kept flower beds, and the whole surroundings are of such a pleasing character that one could scarcely desire a better place in which to spend his declining years. Mr. Jones's home is, however, but typical of the residences of many other settlers in the rural centres of West Moreton. A

drive of less than an hour from this spot brings one to Lowood. En route the home of Captain Vernor is passed, and from it most picturesque views are to be obtained on all sides. Many feet below the captain's house the silvery waters of the Brisbane River meander along on their journey to the ocean. Beyond, on the gently sloping banks of the pellucid stream, are rich fields of golden grain, and as a background to this charming picture are



the brigalow-covered heights which form the fringe of the famous Rosewood Scrub.

Lowood is a comparatively new, but yet progressive, township, situated between Ipswich and Esk, being a little over 20 miles distant from each of those places. It is built on the eastern slope of the boundary ridge of the Rosewood Scrub, and overlooks a valuable alluvial cultivation flat extending right to the edge of the waters of the Brisbane River. Being wholly surrounded with farms which almost invariably give prolific yields, the consignments of produce from the railway station in the course of a year are very large considering the comparatively small area as yet under tillage. It is computed that for the year 1897 the aggregate yield of maize alone in the district was upwards of 62,000 bushels. This is rather under than over the mark, and certainly this year the harvesting is likely to considerably exceed those figures. In the same year the district produced 226 tons of potatoes, 3665 tons of hay, and 207 tons of green fodder. Quite a number of the farmers here hail from Germany and Denmark, and with very few exceptions they have proved themselves to be industrious workers and worthy colonists. Many of them settled on the scrub lands, and the work of clearing off the timber required both energy and perseverance. Their efforts in this direction have, however, been amply rewarded; at least, such is the testimony of the farmers themselves. The average area of the selections in this locality is about 80 acres. Some of the farms, it is true, are very much larger, whilst others, again, are smaller. Many of these holdings are freeholds and are owned by the tenants, who make a

very good living from them. Amongst the latter are some who gained a knowledge of farming in the land of their nativity; but there are also numbers who were entirely ignorant on the subject when they arrived in Queensland. Nevertheless, perseverance enabled them to overcome every initial difficulty, and to-day several of them could almost be classed as men of independent means. They all possess, at least, a dairy herd and a pair of spanking horses and wagon, and the general consensus of opinion amongst them is that they are immeasurably better circumstanced than they could ever have hoped to be in the land from which they emigrated. They have no hesitation in expressing unbounded satisfaction with Queensland. The independent position in which they now find themselves is a state of things which they are able to thoroughly appreciate, and it is a significant fact that none of them would, of their own free will, dispose of their possessions here and return to their fatherland. In proof of this numerous instances could, if necessary, be quoted.

Although dairying is not, perhaps, being carried on in this district with the same degree of intensity as prevails in the Rosewood Scrub, it is at least fast becoming one of the mainstays of the farmers here. It is questionable whether there is one settler in the neighbourhood (who is not himself possessed of a separator) that does not daily convey the milk from his cows to one or other of the many separators located in the district. The quantity brought by the different farmers varies considerably; for the number of cows kept has, of necessity, to be regulated by the area of land held by the settlers. The smaller holdings, which

are cultivated almost to their full extent, are capable of carrying only a few head of stock; but then there are larger areas which are proportionately stocked, and from the dairy herds kept on these a large quantity of milk is obtained daily. The suppliers of the smallest quantities of milk do not realise less than from £3 to £4 a month, whilst the maximum amount paid to an individual supplier reaches the very respectable sum of £50 a month. Dairying as conducted under the existing method affords a sure and regular source of income to farmers. Even though the crops may fail occasionally owing to the severity of a season, the cows, with judicious treatment, can be relied upon to furnish their quota of revenue. This will suffice to provide the wherewithal for the family through the most unfavourable season. In more propitious times they are not only in a position to obtain many of the luxuries of life, but they are also careful to put by a percentage of their earnings. This, in most cases, is lodged in the Government Savings Bank, and the depositors are allowed 3 per cent. per annum on the amounts of their deposits. Quite a number of the farmers in this centre have opened accounts in this excellent institution, and the dimensions which some of these accounts have attained is really surprising.

The largest dairying enterprise operating in Lowood is the Lowood Dairying Company. It was formed about nine years ago, at the time when mechanical cream separators were first introduced into Queensland. Butter-making was engaged in, but, as compared with the methods now in vogue, the plan then





Lowood Butter Factory.

adopted was rather primitive. The absence of a refrigerating plant and the want of proper facilities on the railways for the conveyance of the commodity to market proved a heavy handicap to the company. The plant put down was capable of treating about 1000 gallons of milk, and making 3cwt. of butter per day. With these conveniences, and under the conditions mentioned, the factory was worked for a period of four years, when it was

deemed advisable to make a change. It was resolved that for a time butter-making at the factory should cease, and the establishment be converted into a creamery. This was done, and for some years the cream was consigned in 10-gallon cans to the company's factory near Brisbane, where the facilities for butter-making were a great improvement upon those at Lowood. During that time dairying made rapid strides in the district. A

great many of the farmers secured efficient separators for themselves, and others formed themselves into a co-operative company and established a central creamery in the township. Early last year the Lowood Company determined to resume butter-making in their Lowood premises, which, by the way, are located a mile and a quarter to the north of the township. Consequently, the premises were thoroughly renovated, and equipped with an up-to-date butter-manufacturing plant. The latter included a 12-h.p. boiler, an 8-h.p. engine, a modern refrigerator, a 600lb. concussion churn, a 300lb. churn, and a 150lb. butter worker, besides a commodious cold-storage room. The machinery is valued at £500, and the building at £300. Under these new conditions operations were commenced in May of last year, Mr. W. Daetz, who has a good reputation as a butter-maker, being entrusted with the supervision of the place. Separating here was at once discarded, and a new building erected at Lowood for the accommodation of the machines. The cream extracted from the milk at the latter place, which averages 375lb. to 400lb. per day, is still sent on to the company's Brisbane factory. The local factory, however, takes cream from those who do their own separating, and from the smaller local creamery companies, and converts it into butter on the spot, subsequently forwarding the marketable article to the metropolis by railway in cool cars. Thrice a week the cream is churned, and the aggregate yield for the three churnings averages 3 tons. Per medium of the company a very large sum of money is circulated in the district.



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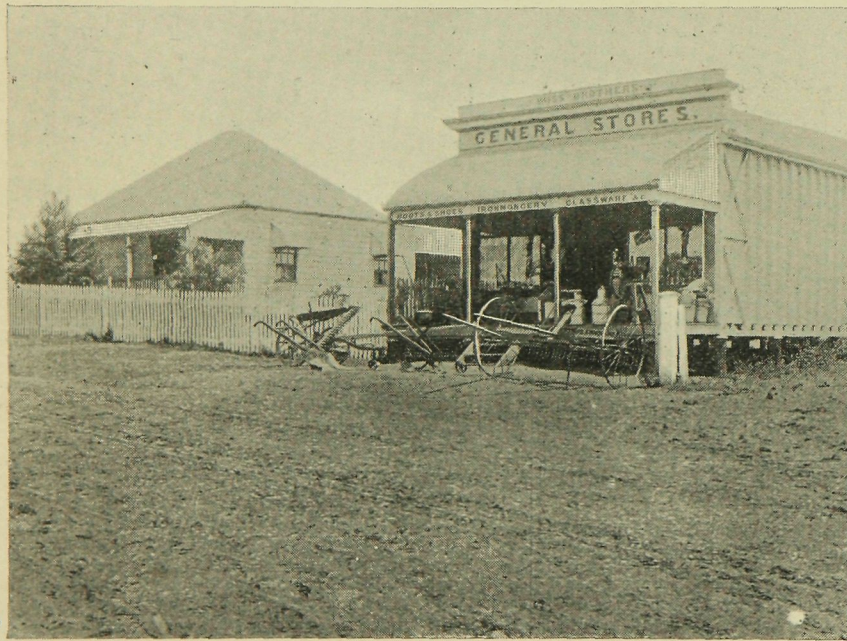


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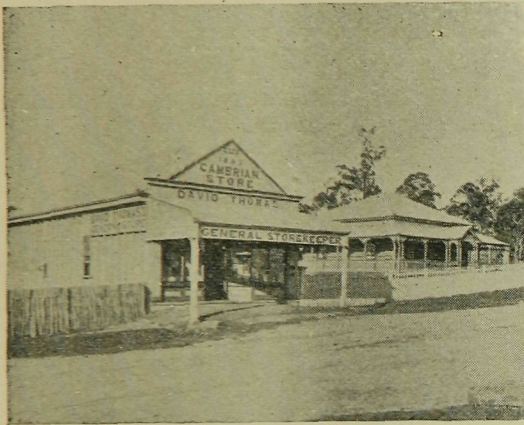
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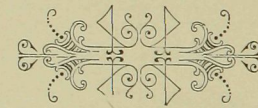
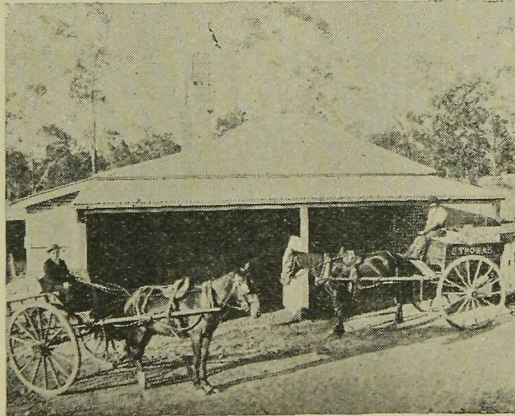




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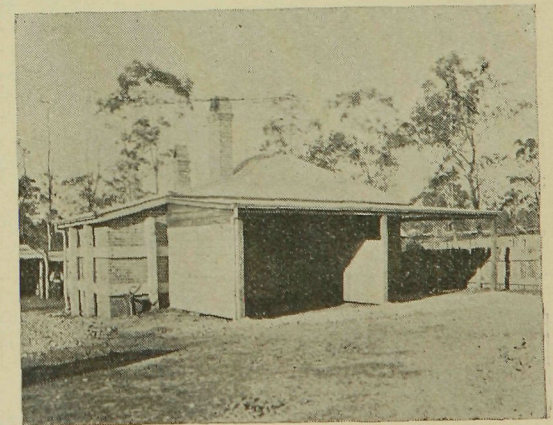
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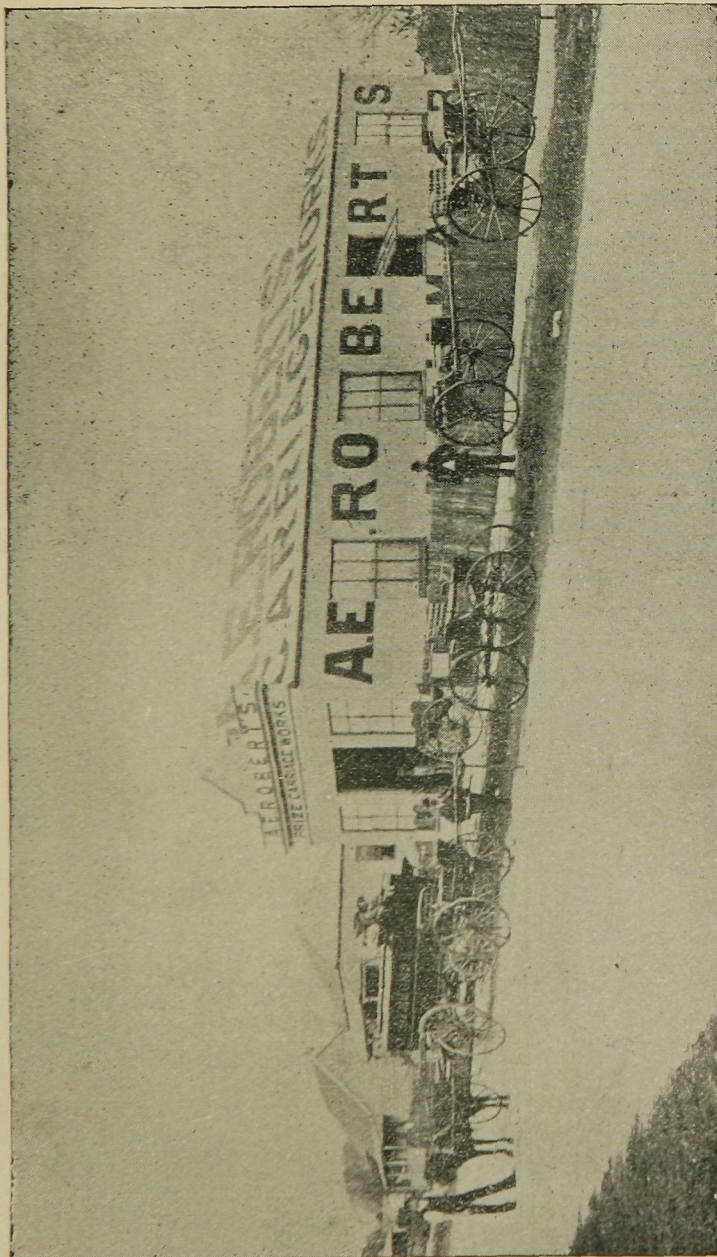
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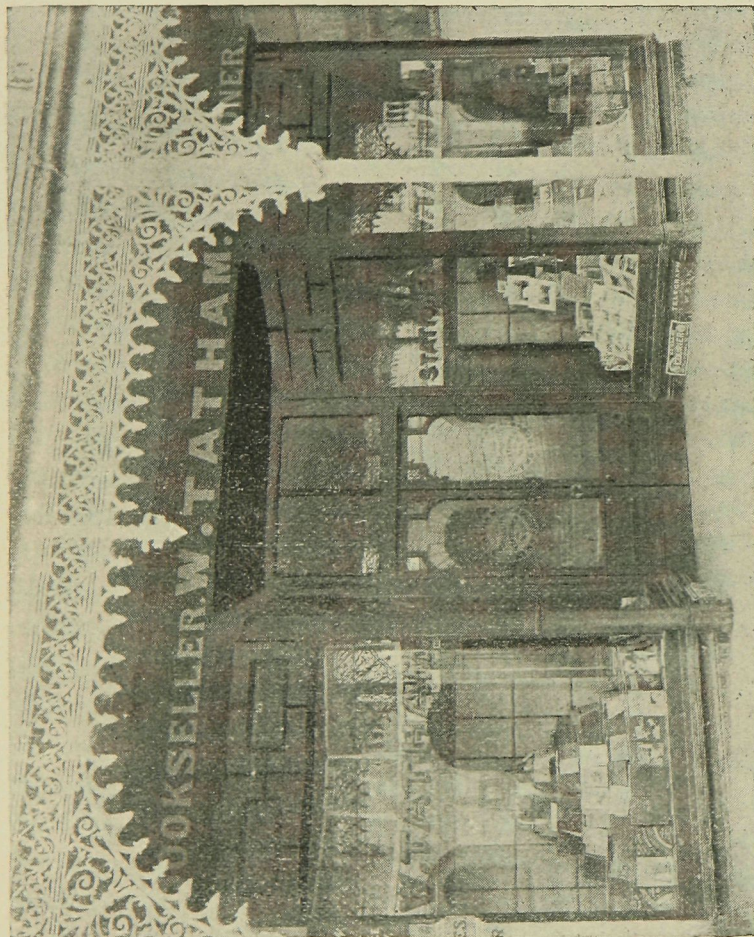
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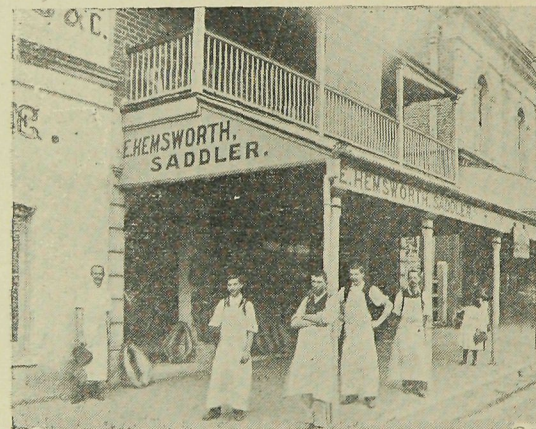


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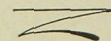
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Cattle scene on Caboonbah Run.

annually. For instance, for the month of January last the total amount paid to suppliers of milk and cream was £800. When the company first commenced operations the farmers were very dubious about the success of the venture, and for a time only 30 gallons of milk per day were received at the factory, and that represented the full quantity treated by the separator process. What a difference there is to-day! The benefits accruing

from the new system of dairying have gradually impressed themselves upon the people, and the aggregate quantity of milk passing through the separator in this particular district must now reach several hundred gallons a day. The factory is kept scrupulously clean, and all the refuse is conveyed through pipes to the piggery, located some considerable distance away. In all, 60 swine are kept, and they are a fruitful source of income to the company.

With the attention given them, they are ready for the market when 5 months old, and are easily disposed of at about 32s. 6d. each. The solid food which they consume—amber cane and sweet potatoes for the most part—is grown on the lower part of the property—a rich alluvial flat on the bank of the Brisbane River. Both the company and the farmers make a very good thing out of the sale of their pigs, which are fed very largely upon skimmed milk.

It is an admitted fact that in the early history of the colony the pioneer pastoralists were permitted to acquire large freeholds of rich land, which have ever since been devoted almost exclusively to the grazing of cattle and sheep. Several of such runs are located in West Moreton. Whatever may be said of the Governments of those early days for allowing this to be done, it must be acknowledged that the powers that be are now endeavouring to retrieve the errors of their predecessors by the action which they have taken to place these lands within the reach of the ordinary agriculturists. By the power given them under the Agricultural Lands Purchase Act the Government can again acquire such land, pay for it in debentures, cut it up into reasonable areas, and re-sell to intending selectors on very easy terms. The power thus vested in them has been taken advantage of by the present Administration, and several estates have already been purchased. One of these is in the Lockyer district, and is referred to elsewhere. There is now a movement afoot to request the Government to take similar action in regard to a portion of the Rosewood Estate bordering on the outskirts of



Lowood. That the request will be complied with is almost a certainty. The land, which is within easy reach of Lowood, comprises upwards of 7000 acres, and has a frontage to the Lockyer Creek—a permanent stream. The country is almost perfectly level, and is as rich a piece of cultivation as could be found in the colony. Being forest land, not over-heavily timbered, the clearing would not involve a great amount of labour. Indeed, fully 2000 acres of it is entirely devoid of trees. It is probable that, in the event of the land being cut up, the selections will not exceed 80 acres in extent. On a block of that size a really good living can be made. When the land becomes available for settlement it will prove a boon not only to Lowood but to the district generally.

Between Lowood and Esk are some fine pasture lands, carpeted with nutritious native grasses, upon which the cattle fatten quickly. One of the largest breeders is Mr. S. Watson, of Viewfield, whose well-known fattening paddocks are situated on the banks of the Lockyer Creek. He is the only breeder in West Moreton of the pure Red Polled Angus cattle, and he has a splendid stud of these animals. The fact that the cattle are “poleys” is a great advantage, in that there is less chance of their injuring each other when being shipped or trucked in mobs. Further than that, Mr. Watson considers these cattle to be first-class for both milk and beef. With Viewfield on the one side and the Rosewood Station lands on the other, the traveller passes along the banks of the Lockyer for some miles in solitude. Besides the sleek cattle, almost half hidden from view by the long

grass, there is nothing to be seen but miles upon miles of land studded with towering gum-trees, and occasional glimpses of the timbered summits of the distant ranges.

Esk is an old and important township at the terminus of the Brisbane Valley branch line of railway. It nestles cosily at the foot of Glen Rock, a peculiar geographical feature which rises abruptly to a height of 500 feet immediately on the east of the town. It serves to totally obscure the early morning sun, and in the winter months it is nearly mid-day before the solar rays penetrate into the town. Farming, dairying, and fruit-growing are all conducted with great success in the neighbourhood of Esk, and more distant from the township are several valuable station properties, which have the reputation of being amongst the best cattle-fattening estates in the colonies. One of the nearest of these runs is Bellevue, situated some miles on the Ipswich side of Esk. By rail it is distant 53 miles from Brisbane and 28 miles from Ipswich, and has a three-mile frontage to the Brisbane River, which gives a never-failing supply of water for stock and for irrigation purposes. Bellevue contains in all 14,000 acres, and is, as we have already indicated, a splendid fattening country; indeed, most of the land is also admirably adapted for cultivation. Portions of it are really ideal land for farms, and, could the owners be induced to cut it up into suitable areas for farming, it is safe to say that there would be no difficulty in securing either tenants or purchasers. The greater part of the estate is divided into small paddocks, which enables it to be worked to the best advantage. The river affords

excellent sport to the angler, as well as opportunities for boating, whilst the lagoons swarm with ducks and other game. The residence is located on elevated ground, from which some splendid



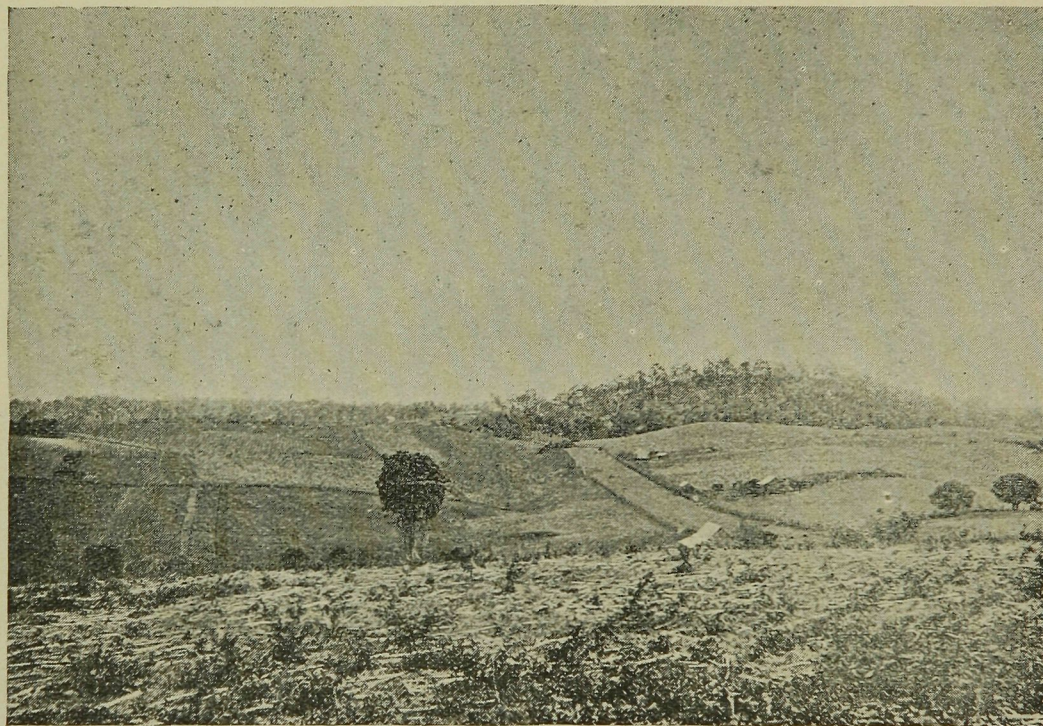
Bellevue Station headquarters.

river and mountain scenery is obtainable. The land was originally included in the late Colonel North's estate, but was subsequently acquired by Messrs. Simpson and Campbell. Many years ago, the late Mr. G. C. Taylor became owner of the property, and he resided there till the time of his death, only a few weeks ago. Close to Bellevue is Deep Creek—a settlement composed of small grazing farmers. Little or no cultivation is done here. The holders depend solely upon their stock for a livelihood, and rely almost exclusively upon the natural grasses as food for their cattle. Latterly, more attention has been given to dairying than was formerly the case, and with the most gratifying results.



Located centrally is a creamery belonging to the Silverwood Dairy Company, where from 1000 to 1200 gallons of milk per day are put through the separators. This gives a return to the suppliers of from £10 to £50 a month each. In the course of a few months, however, cream-separating here will have become a thing of the past. With the concurrence of the local residents, the company have determined upon erecting a cheese factory in the locality on the most modern principles. The work will be completed before the end of the year, and then the milk will be converted into cheese, which will give a better return to the suppliers than it was possible for them to secure for the cream.

Away in the distance may be seen the ethereal blue-topped ranges forming the watershed of the Brisbane and Stanley Rivers, and the boundary-lines of the Mount Brisbane, Cressbrook, and Caboonbah runs—all notable fattening pastures, from which thousands of prime cattle are sent to market each year. A few hours' drive in the direction indicated, and the precipitous heights stand out boldly in front, necessitating the traveller's turning to either the right or the left. By taking the latter route, and following a circuitous track leading across the Stanley and Brisbane Rivers, through picturesque valleys and along beautiful ridges, one ultimately reaches Caboonbah house, the delightful home of Mr. H. P. Somerset. The estate comprises 5000 acres, with the Brisbane River—which is here a fine broad stream—running through it, giving an ample water supply for every purpose. The residence is erected almost on the edge of



View of Mount Beppo farms.

Caboonbah Rock, which dips almost perpendicularly to the water's edge, 120ft. below. From this and many other pretty eminences on the run glimpses of beautiful river and mountain scenery are revealed. In one spot is a panoramic view of the Mount Beppo farms. The Mount Beppo land, we may remark parenthetically, is an extensive belt of vine scrub country, lying between the cattle stations and Esk. The rich friable soil, which yields bountiful

crops under anything like favourable conditions, is occupied by about 100 families. But to resume: From the front of Caboonbah house, the scenery is exceedingly picturesque. Lofty peaks, so near that even the shapes of the trees on their steep slopes can be distinctly discerned, stand out in bold relief. At their base flow the pellucid waters of the Upper Brisbane River. The narrow, rocky-bottomed ravines between the mountains, with their





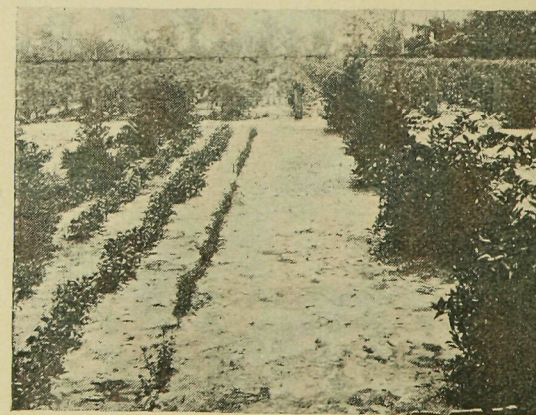
Caboonbah Station headquarters.

luxuriant growth of ferns, staghorns, palm-trees, etc., are just visible, and almost compel closer inspection, such is their surpassing loveliness. Stretching far away to the left are the Caboonbah and Cressbrook pastures, bearing an abundance of succulent grass, which speaks volumes for the fertility of the soil. The extensive river flats, with their never-failing supply of water, are admirably adapted for lucerne cultivation, whilst the low ridges to the

rear are splendid wheat-growing country. The pity is that such land has been allowed to be locked up; but sooner or later, probably shortly, it will be made available for closer settlement.

Esk itself is an industrial centre. Besides several hotels, stores, churches, and a State school-house, there are two saw-mills, each of which does a good business. Apart, however, from the timber taken by the mills, a large quantity is consigned

weekly, by railway, to Ipswich and Brisbane. The bulk of it is pine, and is brought various distances by bullock-teams, some of it fully 30 miles. An average of 25,200ft. of such timber is despatched weekly, and this industry in itself affords employment to quite a large number of teamsters. Wine-making is another industry of the district. There are several vineyards, although the wine made is, in many instances, only kept for home consumption. In some cases, however, the wineries are conducted on a rather pretentious scale. Notably is this the case at Mr. W. J. Gutteridge's Norman Vineyard. The latter is situated on a sandy ridge overlooking an extensive lagoon. For many years the land was considered to be



Norman Vineyard.

valueless, and totally unproductive. Mr. Gutteridge's present holding comprises 80 acres, which is the remaining portion of a large area of land held by him at one



time for dairying purposes. Eleven years ago he disposed of most of his property, but this particular portion was thought to be so worthless that he was unable to give it away, much less sell it. Two years later, noticing that, although sandy, the ridge was always moist, Mr. Gutteridge ventured to test its vine-growing capabilities. Pending the maturing of the grapevines he resorted to vegetable-growing on

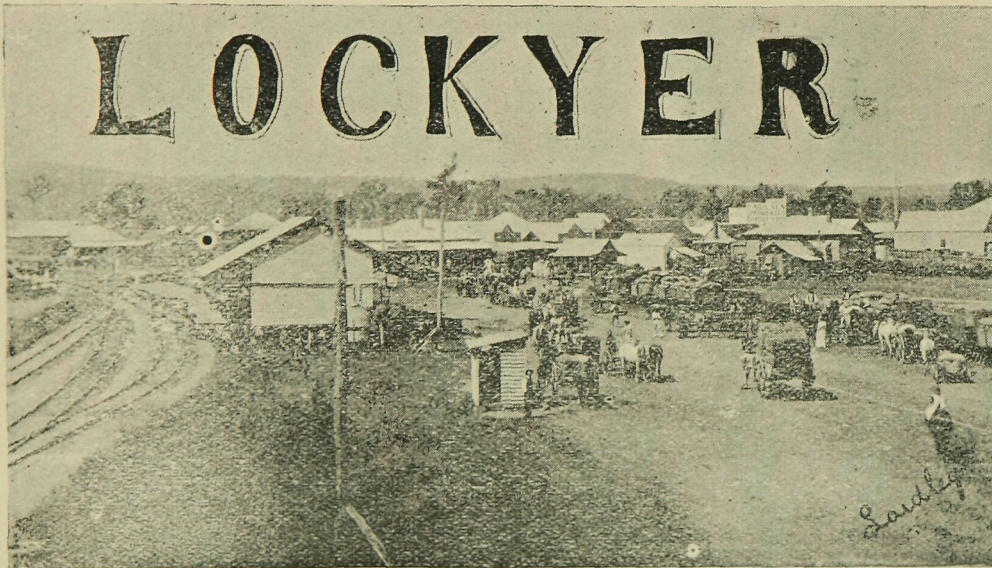
the land, and his efforts in this direction were attended with so much success that he was soon very hopeful regarding his vines. The latter grew wonderfully well, with the result that the area under them was soon considerably extended. For some time past Mr. Gutteridge has yearly added to his vineyard, and last season he gathered, from five acres of vines, 800 cases of grapes, each containing 36lb.,

which he disposed of at a profit of  $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. Over and above this he made a large quantity of wine, which likewise finds a ready sale at a remunerative figure. He also has 50 hives of bees, from which he gets yearly 80 cans of honey, each can holding 56lb., and this product he disposes of with little trouble. Undoubtedly, Mr. Gutteridge's enterprise has been crowned with success.



Caboonbah Rock.



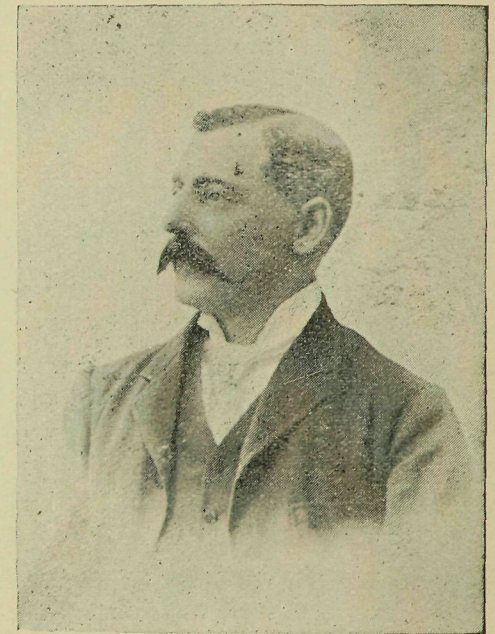


Loading produce at the Laidley railway station.

**T**HE Lockyer is the most westerly of the six electoral districts comprised in West Moreton, and has as its western boundary the succession of mountain ranges which divide the coastal district from that of the interior. Not much more than twenty years ago those fine areas of land in the Lockyer which were not utilised as cattle runs, lay idle, but to-day they are occupied by a prosperous community of industrious farmers. The word "prosperous" is used advisedly. All over the district there are unmistakable evidences of the success which has been achieved by well-directed energy. Industrious labour is characteristic of the residents, and there-

fore it is not to be wondered at that prosperity reigns. Whilst the success accomplished is in a very large measure attributable to the intelligence displayed by the people themselves, it must be admitted that they have been fortunate in settling upon land which for fertility it would be difficult to excel. The district is intersected by the Lockyer, Laidley, Blackfellow's, Ma Ma, and other creeks, and some of their never-failing tributaries, which provide a permanent supply of fresh water, and in their meanderings form splendid pockets, which are admirably adapted for cultivation purposes. The main water-courses have their sources in

the ranges away to the south of the several townships bordering on the trunk line of railway which passes through the district. These flow on for some distance through the horse-shoe valleys formed by the ranges, and from their banks, stretching to the base of the mountains, are rich alluvial flats tenanted by a contented, because successful, community of farmers. The areas abutting on the rivulets are composed of a light-coloured, loamy soil, of considerable depth, whilst further back



Mr. W. D. Armstrong, M.L.A., Lockyer Electorate

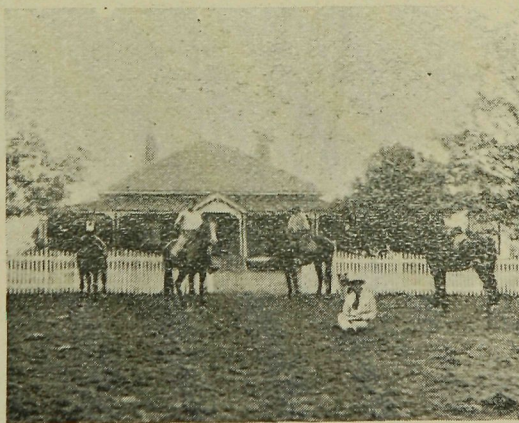
towards the base of the ranges the ground gradually becomes heavier and darker,



and in most instances that furthest from the streams is of a heavy black description. This variety of character in the soils is advantageous in that it gives a natural adaptability for diversified farming. Most of the ground on the succession of low spurs branching off the main ranges and running parallel with the streams, has been selected, and very much of it has been placed under cultivation. The soil here is for the most part of a light reddish colour, extremely fertile under favourable climatic conditions and particularly friable. These areas are admirably suited for dairying purposes. Couch grass—a natural and very nutritious fodder—grows luxuriantly, and when the forest flats are parched and bare, there is an abundance of this natural herbage in these quarters. It is an admitted fact that in instances where cows have to rely for their sustenance upon the country's natural grasses, those located on these uplands give the best average yield of milk the year through, and it is a milk, too, which is richer in butter-fat than that obtained from the grass-fed cattle in the meadows.

Lockyer is essentially an agricultural centre. It contributes a very considerable percentage of the fodder produced in Queensland. Excepting maize, cereals are not grown in any great quantity, the staple products being root crops and fodder plants. Experiments in wheat-growing have, however, proved very satisfactory, and it is not unlikely that in time there will be large and regular areas of this grain sown. The crops garnered have come principally from the Lockyer and Laidley Creek valleys, and yields of from 25 to 30 bushels of wheat an acre have

been obtained. Some of the grain has been pronounced by experts to be of excellent quality, and these samples have furnished as good an exhibition wheat as was ever produced in the colony. Official statistics show that the area of wheat sown in West Moreton last year was 4045 acres, and the most of that was planted in the Lockyer district. The production of barley has been comparatively small so far, but there is no reason why its cultivation should not, in the near future, be more largely engaged in. The establishment of two malting houses in Toowoomba and one in Warwick has created a demand for the grain. It has been proved beyond question that good malting barley can be



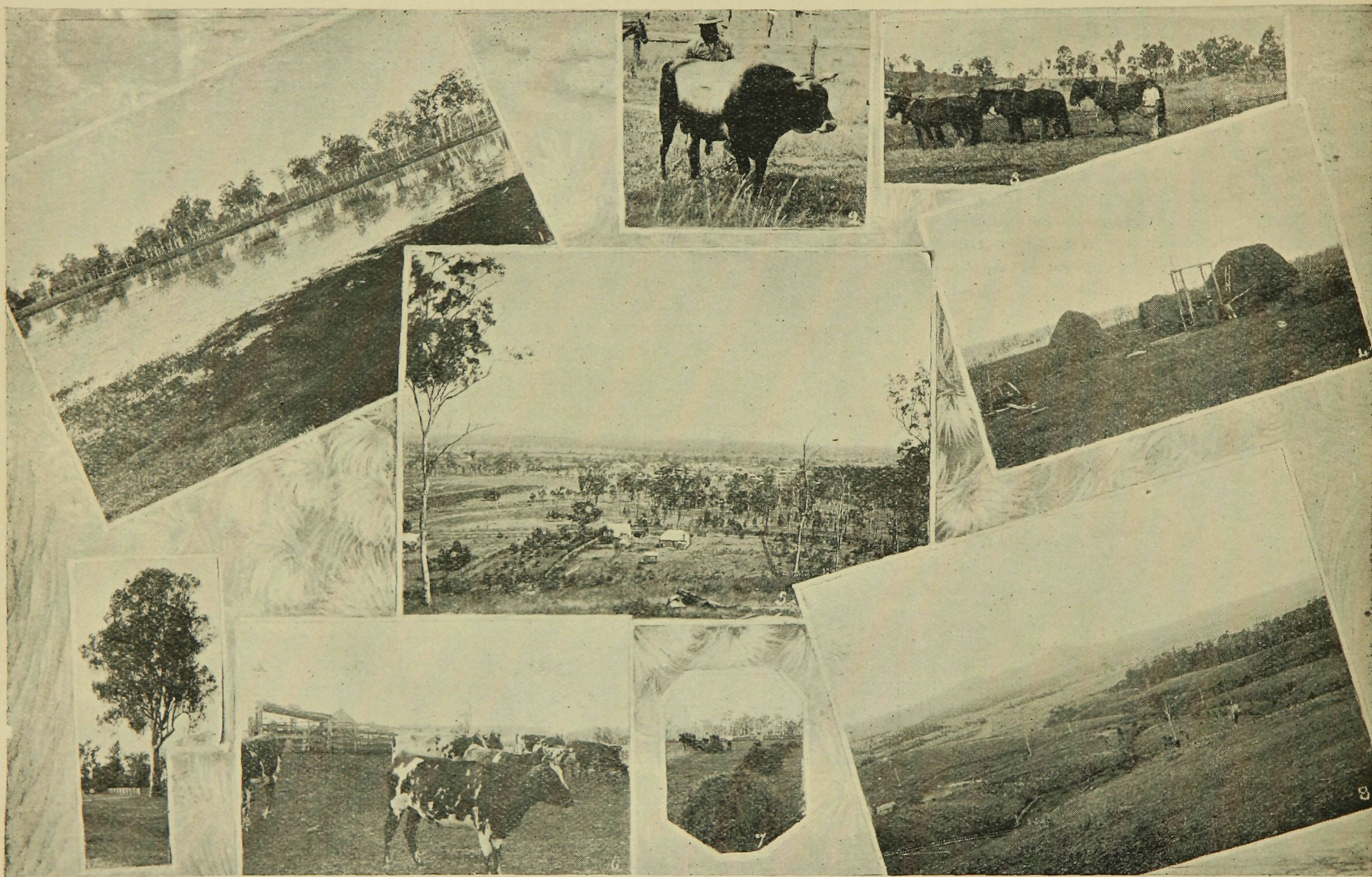
Rosewood Station house.

grown in the district, and with a ruling price of 3s 6d to 4s per bushel, which almost always obtains, it could certainly be produced at a profit. That there is room for an increased production of the

grain is evident from the fact that last year 156,613 bushels of malt were imported into Queensland, and the duty thereon was 4s 6d per bushel, whilst the shortage of locally grown malting barley for the present season totals 40,000 bushels.

Throughout the Lockyer district potato-growing is very largely engaged in. The reason for this is not far to seek. Large yields and frequent big monetary returns have been the inducement to enter into the cultivation of the favourite English tuber. Statistics show that a very considerable percentage of the Queensland-grown potatoes come from this district. Even in the most adverse seasons, when the farm crops are comparatively light consequent upon unfavourable climatic conditions, potatoes form no inconsiderable proportion of the aggregate products obtained. The soil appears to be particularly adapted for their growth. This may be especially said of the rich friable loam on the banks of Blackfellow's and Ma Ma Creeks, lying to the south of Gatton. Here prolific yields are invariably secured, and on some occasions abnormal crops have been gathered, up to 10 tons per acre having been obtained. Every farmer in this quarter places a section of his land under potatoes each year, and many rely upon them as their main crop. Instances could be cited where small fortunes have been made out of potatoes in one year. A portion of last season's crop sold at from £10 10s. to £12 per ton, and the market price ranged from £7 to £10 per ton for many months. The yields range from 3 to 6 tons per acre, and, when it is mentioned that two crops a year are obtainable, it will be readily

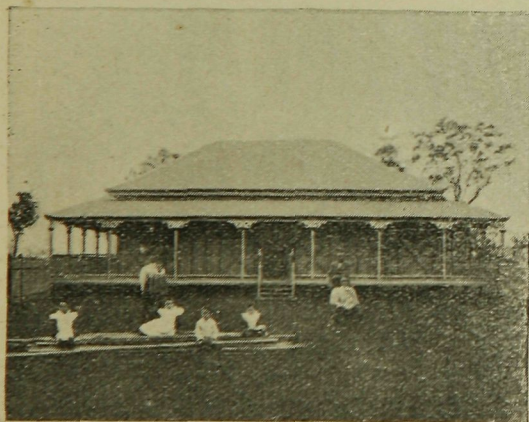




1. Scene on Tarampa Station. 2. Agricultural College Jersey bull. 3. Six-horse plough 4. Pressing hay for market. 5. Laidley in the distance.  
 6. Mr. John Cook's Ayrshire cattle. 7. Gathering hay. 8. Farm view near Laidley.



understood that potato-growing is a remunerative undertaking. Last year the receipts for two crops from a nine-acre paddock totalled no less a sum than £700. This represented but a percentage of the income of the fortunate grower who works his farm on scientific principles. A diversity of products is what he believes in, and his success is an exemplification of what may be accomplished as a result of intelligent farming. Some of the revenue from the crops alluded to was apportioned to the building of a commodious, substantial, and well finished dwelling, a portrait of which is given in this publication. Other farmers in the neighbourhood of the one above alluded to were equally successful. There were two who each had



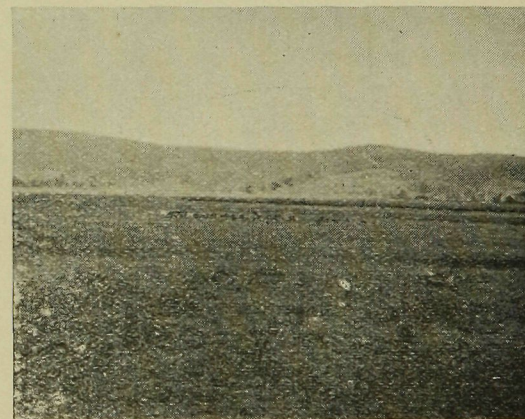
Mr. Jas. Logan's house, built from profits off one year's potato crop.

a yield from one planting of about 70 tons, which sold at an average of £7 10s per

ton. Many others had smaller crops, but their takings were proportionately large.

With the larger land-owners—that is, those who cultivate 80 acres and upwards—fodder plants or English potatoes are the main crops. Some give first place to the former and some to the latter, whilst others divide their holdings about equally between the two products. Most of the large selections have a river frontage, and, as the alluvial river flats are rich in those substances which promote the sure and rapid growth of the two crops mentioned, the yeomanry who work them obtain very satisfactory results. Time was when almost the whole of this land, excepting a few small patches which were used for potato-growing, was placed under maize. Field after field contained nothing but maize. The natural outcome was enormous aggregate yields, a glutted market, consequent low prices, and despondent farmers. At the same time hay and chaff were being imported in large quantities. The farmers very soon realised the wisdom of varying their crops, and the result is a very marked change in the method of farming as compared with that which formerly obtained. Whilst the average farmer grows a little of everything, so that if one crop fails he has something to fall back upon, the agriculturists have, for the most part, adopted the practice of growing as their main crop the particular product which the land is best adapted to produce. Hence the now extensive growth of fodder plants on the river lands. Lucerne and panicum are the most largely grown, the former predominating. In the early days of lucerne growing—not so many years ago—harvesting was done in a very

primitive way. Mowing was effected by means of the scythe—a very slow process—and chaffing was done with a hand-cutter. What a difference there is to-day! Each grower—and there are now many of them—has his mowing machine, with

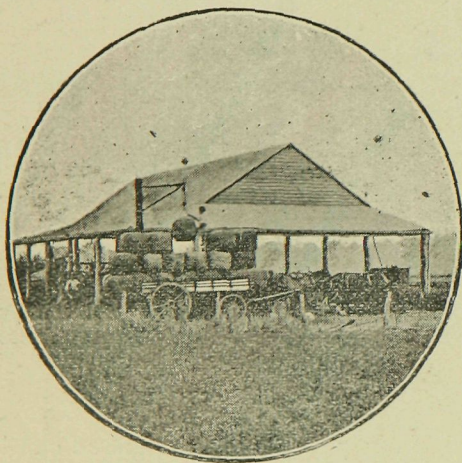


Scene near Laidley Creek.

which from 7 to 9 acres of lucerne can be cut in a day. Some of the panicum and cereal growers have possessed themselves of combined reapers and binders, and resorted to steam-power for chaff-cutting. The initial expense may seem heavy, but the owners candidly admit that the saving in labour and the enhanced value given to chaff consequent upon its more marketable appearance soon recoup them for the cost of the machines. The bulk of the chaff produced is composed of pure lucerne, although much of it is of the mixed variety, the ingredients of the latter being lucerne and panicum. Large quantities of this chaff are shipped to the northern

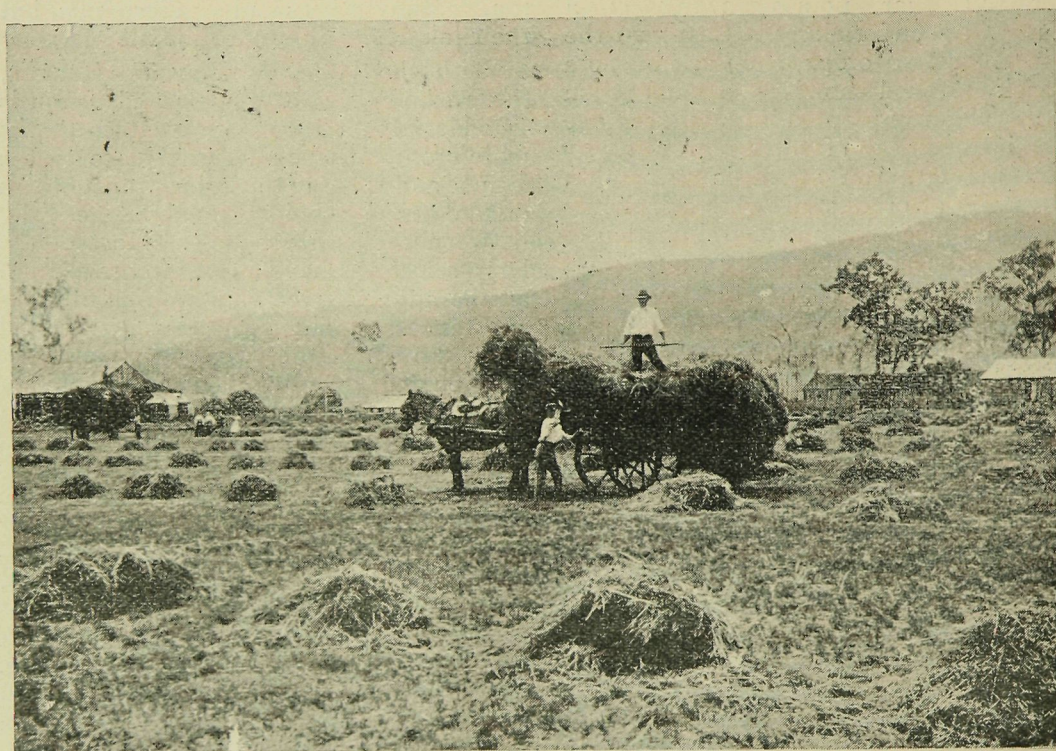


part of the colony, there to supply the increasing demands of the sugar-planters and others. Lucerne will stand for about seven years without re-sowing, and in anything like favourable seasons eight cuttings a year may be taken off it. These range from 15 cwt. to 25 cwt. per acre, some of it giving as much as 30 cwt. to the acre. The average price realised



M'Garrigal's patent chaff-loader.

is between £2 and £3 per ton, which gives the satisfactory return of from £15 to £25 per acre per annum. Here is an instance of what is being done by lucerne growers: One of the oldest settlers on the Laidley Creek lands despatches on an average 12 tons of lucerne chaff per week, which gives a total consignment for the eight months during which the crop may be cut of about 400 tons. Calculated at £2 per ton—a rather low average—this shows a return of £800 for the year from



View of Mr. P. M'Grath's lucerne paddock.

one product alone. Although most of the lucerne is chaffed, a fair quantity of it is put up in trusses, nicely trimmed, and sent to the market in the form of hay.

The areas of heavy black soil and the mountain slopes are devoted chiefly to the growth of maize, for which grain there is almost invariably a very good demand at payable figures. The smaller farmers on the hills make this their staple crop, combining with it a little dairying, pig-breed-

ing, and poultry-raising. Most of the settlers in these localities belong to the Teutonic race, and on the whole they have proved themselves to be an industrious class of farmers. They cultivate from 30 to 50 acres of their holdings, which range from 60 to 100 acres each. In many instances a section of each farm has not yet been denuded of the thick scrub growth with which the whole of the land was originally covered. The balance



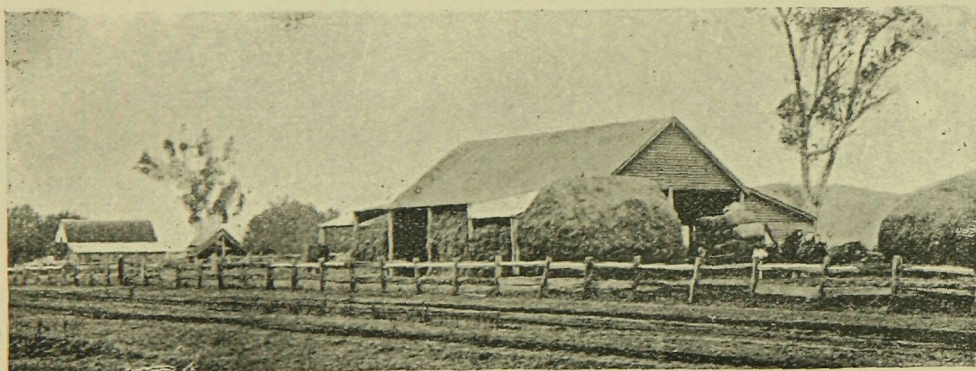


1. Farm view near Gatton. 2. Chaff on the way to market. 3. Helidon railway station. 4 and 6. Railway cuttings. 5. Cattle scene on Lake Clarendon Station. 7. Haymaking. 8. Murphy's Creek Township.



of the cleared area beyond what is cultivated is fenced off into paddocks for depasturing the dairy herd. The number of cows kept varies according to the land available for them as a run. Most of the farmers convey their milk to one or other of the many creameries which are fast being established in every centre in the electorate, and this assures them a certain and steady income for cream. The skimmed milk which is received back from

lucerne-growers are now combining the two industries with the most encouraging results. Notably is this the case with Mr. John Cook, of Laidley Creek, and Mr. Patrick Dwyer, of Blackfellow's Creek. Both gentlemen are the proud possessors of splendid herds of Aryshire cattle, the class of stock which is considered to be best adapted for dairying purposes in this part of the world. Throughout the whole district the dairy herds are being



Mr. G. Baulch's hay-shed.

the creameries, together with much of the refuse on the farm; and sweet potatoes, which are grown specially for the purpose, are fed to the pigs and turned to profitable account through their agency. The poultry-yard, too, adds its quota to the year's revenue. On an ordinary-sized farm worked without the aid of outside labour it is no uncommon thing to derive from £30 to £50 annually from the sale of eggs and poultry. During the past three years dairying has made very rapid strides in the district, and some of the large

gradually improved. It is no longer thought that any sort of cow will do as a milker; farmers have come to realise that it is the animals of good milking qualities which are the most profitable.

Fruit-culture has proved a splendid source of revenue to many of the residents in the Lockyer district. There are few who have not at least a small area under fruit trees, in close proximity to their homes. Many have several acres of such trees, and a few look solely to their orchards as a means of livelihood. Per-

haps orangeries would be a more applicable term than orchards, as the great majority of the trees from whose fruit revenue is derived, are of the citrus tribe. In many quarters the soil, which has a natural drainage, appears to be well suited for the cultivation of oranges. Samples of fruit—oranges in particular—from some of the gardens in this district have appropriated important prizes at several of the principal exhibitions held in the colony. The Kincapple orangery, situated on the banks of Ma Ma Creek, about nine miles from Gatton, the property of Messrs. Andrew and Willie Philp, may be cited as typical of other orangeries in the Lockyer. The soil is a loose, chocolate-coloured loam of some depth, having an excellent natural drainage. About eight years ago the first lot of trees was planted, and ever since others have been gradually added, till there are now 1000 healthy-looking trees on 15 acres of the estate. Only four acres were in bearing last year, and the yield therefrom was 900 cases, each containing 11 dozen, and these gave a return of £200 nett. The orangery has been skilfully and intelligently laid out, and receives every attention at the hands of the proprietors. Not a weed is allowed to disfigure the well-kept ground, and every endeavour is made to check the ravages of a threatening pest by applying remedial measures immediately upon its appearance. So far the result has been eminently satisfactory. Near by are two similar orangeries owned by relatives of the Messrs. Philp, and these, too, bring in a considerable sum annually to their owners. The grape-vine thrives exceedingly well in many parts of the district, and there are a few persons



who engage in wine-making on rather an extensive scale. Amongst the German population, most of the wine made is chiefly for home consumption, although in one or two instances a really good class of this article is manufactured for the market. The Burnside winery, located on the banks of the creek about six miles from Laidley, is reputed for the excellence of its wines. From an area of less than 3 acres the experienced owner makes annually from 500 to 800 gallons, which commands a ready sale, not merely in the immediate district, but also throughout the colony.

There are four townships in the Lockyer of some years' standing, and two of more recent growth. All are important commercial centres. Laidley is the nearest town to the metropolis, being distant therefrom about 50 miles. It is a picturesque and decidedly busy place, situated only a short distance from the summit of the Little Liverpool Range. Viewed from the railway station, away to the north is a succession of low hills thickly dotted with cultivation areas and comfortable dwellings—the homes of scores of settlers. In a southerly direction extend the rich lands of the Laidley valley, from whence come regular and large supplies of fodder and other products. Two banking companies are represented in the town, and there are several pretentious commercial houses, as well as four large hotels, an imposing post and telegraph office, and other buildings in keeping with the importance of the town. Undoubtedly, Laidley is one of the busiest agricultural towns, not only in West Moreton, but in the colony. Indeed, it is questionable if it does not hold premier position in this respect. The large produce firms in Bris-

bane and Ipswich have experienced buyers permanently stationed here, and the competition is always keen—which, of course, is to the advantage of the vendors. An extensive yard surrounds the railway station, and for the convenience of consignors a loop line of railway is provided, with other facilities for loading. Here the scene is always one of much animation in consequence of the large consignments of produce which are daily dispatched to Brisbane and elsewhere. The following is a return of the heavier lines forwarded from the station during the years mentioned:—

	Hay in Bales, each 3cwt.	Chaff in Bales, each 3cwt.	Chaff in Bags.	Maize, each bag 4 bushels	Potatoes.
1896—	11,504 bales	17,596 bales	4,457 bags	45,153 bags	4175 bags
1897—	11,672 bales	21,006 bales	15,395 bags	44,521 bags	5108 bags
1898—	9,915 bales	29,208 bales	16,693 bags	28,821 bags	8515 bags

The total tonnage sent from the station during the three mentioned years was:—1896, 10,416 tons; 1897, 11,334 tons; 1898, 11,274 tons. These figures represent but a fair percentage of the agricultural produce grown in the Lockyer district. From each of the other five railway stations large consignments are forwarded annually, and the aggregate would run into surprisingly large totals. As illustrative of the rapid strides which dairying is making in the Laidley portion of the Lockyer, it is interesting to quote the figures showing the quantities of cream

dispatched from Laidley during the last three years to one or other of the several butter factories in Ipswich and Brisbane. The figures are:—

1896	...	...	...	9378	gallons
1897	...	...	...	22,035	„
1898	...	...	...	33,515	„

The output for the present year (1899) promises to far exceed that of last year. During January 3496 gallons were consigned, whilst the total forwarded in February was 4734 gallons.

Lying between Laidley and Gatton is a stretch of beautiful, level country. For

some miles out from Laidley there is a fine expanse of rich farms on either side of the railway. The first stopping-place is Forest Hill, the business centre of a community of agriculturists who have settled there in recent years. The village itself is making wonderful progress, and from all appearances must continue to do so. What has tended to promote its growth of late is the action of the Government in throwing open for selection an area of about 6000 acres of black soil land immediately on the northern side of the railway line. The land was originally a



portion of the Rosewood cattle station run, and was secured by the Government a few years ago under the provisions of the Agricultural Lands Purchase Act. With as little delay as possible the land was surveyed into suitable areas for agricultural purposes, and about three years since these blocks were made available for selection by those desirous of settling down upon them. The land is most conveniently situated. On one side is the trunk line of railway, whilst the Lockyer and Laidley creeks form the boundaries for the greater part of the other three sides. Having regard to these facts, it is not to be wondered at that there were numerous applicants for the blocks, which ranged in area from 50 acres to 80 acres. The purchasing price varied from £3 to upwards of £6 per acre, the value of the different lots being determined according to quality of soil and their relative position with respect to the railway and creeks. The payments may extend over a period of 20 years, although the purchaser has the option, should he elect to do so, of clearing off the liability on his land at any time during the interim. A condition imposed is that the purchaser shall fence his holding within five years, or expend an equivalent sum in other improvements, and that he shall reside upon the place either personally or by agent. He is required to pay annually in respect of every £100 of the purchase money a sum of £7 12s. 6d., which includes interest at the rate of five per cent., and the balance as redemption of the principal sum. On the basis of such a payment, the whole debt would be paid off in 20 years. The settlers on these Rosewood lands have



Lake Clarendon Station  
house.

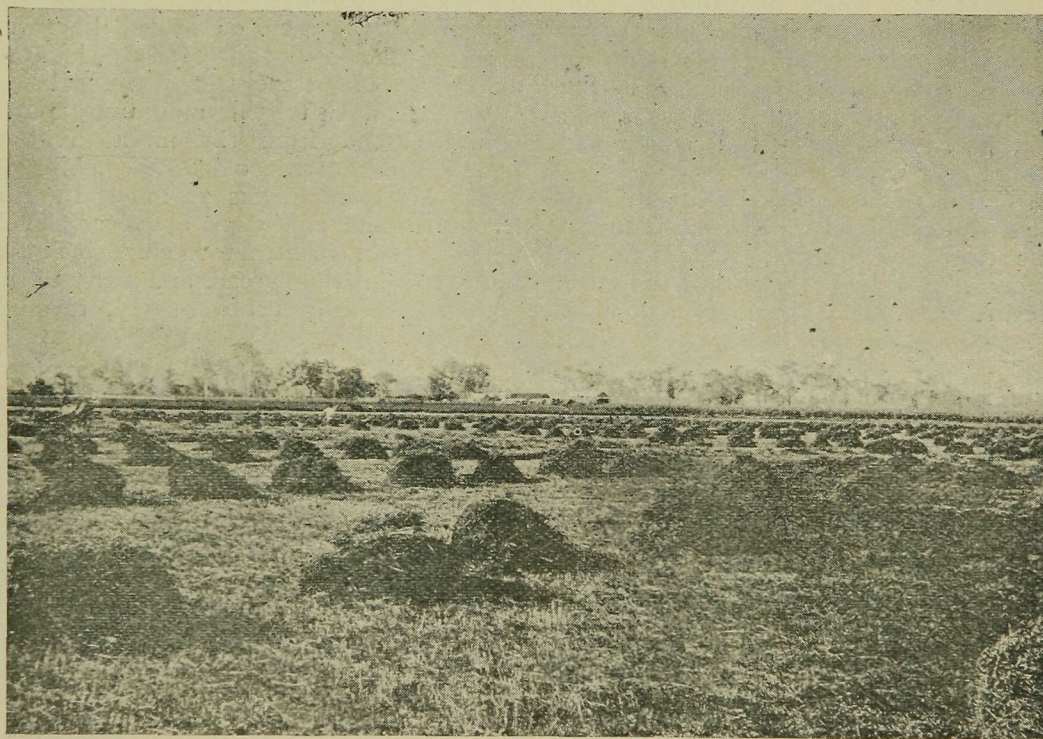
little to complain of; indeed, on the contrary, they all express themselves as well satisfied with their bargain. Most of them have got considerable areas under the plough. Some have erected substantial and neat looking cottages, whilst many have built temporary dwellings. Those who have been on the ground a sufficient length of time to enable them to form an opinion as to what return may be looked for from the land, express themselves as being thoroughly content with the prospect ahead. Although handicapped as they have been by the initial difficulties which always beset the early days of the farmer, they have derived enough from their crops to meet their annual rent payments, and to keep them in comfort. The success which has attended the action of the Government in repurchasing this estate will doubtless

lead to an extension of the operations of the Act. It is not improbable that, in the near future, the Lake Clarendon property, which lies on the opposite side of the Lockyer to the Rosewood estate, will also be repurchased. It comprises upwards of 14,000 acres, and is owned by the Hon. W. Vanneck. For many years past it has been used as a cattle breeding and fattening station, the breeding of short-horn cattle having been extensively engaged in. Recently the land was placed under offer to the Government, and the probability is that a bargain will be consummated, and the land apportioned into suitable blocks for close settlement. Running along the bank of the creek for several miles and extending back for some distance is an expanse of level country, of rich dark soil, on which scores of settlers could make a comfortable living. In the



event of the land becoming closely settled, the chances are that a bridge will be thrown across the Lockyer, at a convenient point, so as to give the settlers easy access to the Forest Hill railway station. Failing this provision, however, those who occupy the land will be within an hour's drive of Gatton.

Distant not more than seven miles from the new and flourishing settlement of Forest Hill is the solvent little township of Gatton. The intervening country is slightly undulating, and is fairly thickly timbered with ironbark, gum, and bloodwood trees. On the right are what are designated the railway paddocks connected with the Agricultural College. About a mile away, on the summit of a gentle sloping ridge, the railway traveller catches fleeting glimpses of the extensive and imposing college buildings (of which more anon). Gatton is 61 miles from Brisbane and 37 miles from Ipswich, and has an altitude of 340ft. above sea level. It is from here that much of the extensive crops of horse fodder, potatoes, &c, which are grown on the extremely fertile lands bordering on the Lockyer and Blackfellow's Creeks, and their tributaries, are consigned to the larger centres of population. In this neighbourhood, as in several other localities in the electorate, many of the farmers are turning their attention to dairying, which promises, in the near future, to be practised on a much more extensive scale than is the case at present. There are now several comparatively small creameries located in different centres, and that these will increase in size and number, there is abundant evidence. To the local residents demonstration of what may be accomplished



Mr. P. Dwyer's farm, near Gatton.

in dairying has been afforded by the proprietors of the Tent Hill Estate, a valuable property, situated some six miles from Gatton on the banks of Blackfellow's Creek, and comprising upwards of 1400 acres. Butter-making is engaged in there under the direction of the manager, Mr. Drew, on the latest approved method, and a capital marketable article is produced. Although a goodly quantity of milk is obtained from the neighbouring farmers,

who are paid on the basis that generally prevails throughout the dairying districts, a considerable percentage of the lacteal fluid is furnished by the Estate herd—an exceptionally good one, numbering fully 150 head, of which 120 are, at the time of writing, in milk. Large quantities of butter are manufactured, and the article finds a ready sale at profitable figures. The cattle are carefully tended, a fact which, in a very large measure, accounts



for the success which has attended the venture. During the favourable season of the year more than a sufficiency of nutritious fodder for the feeding of the cows in the winter months, is grown, and the surplus is despatched to Brisbane and elsewhere for sale.

In Gatton, which is the political headquarters of the Lockyer district, in that it is the seat of the Returning Officer for the electorate, there is the usual list of hotels, stores, &c. A steady business is done by

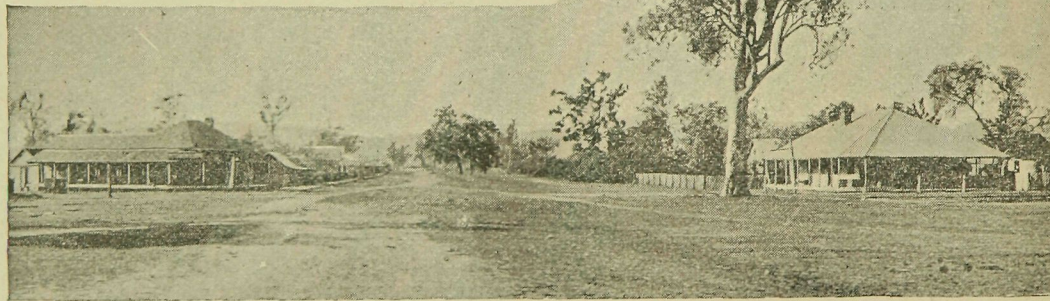


Gatton railway station.

the storekeepers, most of whom possess large vans, which make weekly trips round the outlying districts. The driver takes with him a varied lot of merchandise, with which he barter, receiving in exchange eggs and other of the smaller products of the farm. An extensive business is done in this way.

Midway between Gatton and Helidon—about five miles from either place—is the

Grantham railway station, from which immense quantities of heavy lines of produce are consigned. Helidon, located on the banks of the Lockyer Creek, in close proximity to the mountain spurs, which extend from the main dividing range, is one of the oldest townships in West Moreton. It is 72 miles by rail from Brisbane, and 462ft. above sea level, and is a compact little township. To the north are grazing areas, and away to the south in the hilly scrub country, through

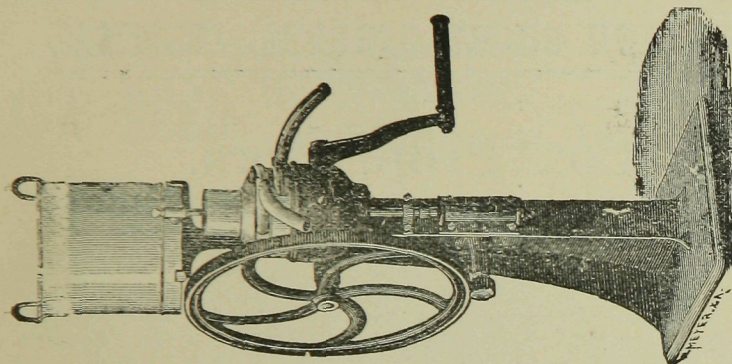


Helidon township.

which flow Flagstone and Stockyard Creeks, are the homes of agriculturists, who win their living from the soil. Within a distance of two miles of the township are two famous mineral springs which furnish a tonic that is said to rank amongst the best spas in the world. As a tonic, the water, it is claimed, is invaluable. According to Mr. W. M. Dixon, F.I.C., F.C.S., of Sydney, who made an analysis of the water, it contains the following constituents:—

	Grains per gal.
Organic matter ... ..	Traces.
Oxide of iron and Alumina ... ..	Traces.
Chloride of sodium ... ..	2.99
Carbonate of sodium ... ..	212.14
Carbonate of lithium ... ..	2.68
Carbonate of calcium ... ..	7.35
Carbonate of magnesium ... ..	3.39
Silica ... ..	0.29
Total ... ..	228.84
Total solids on evaporation ... ..	233.01

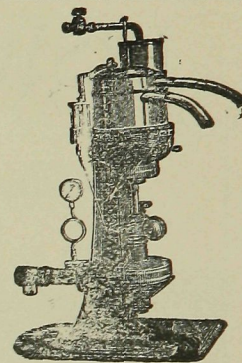




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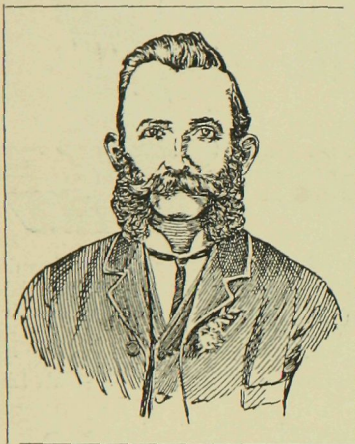


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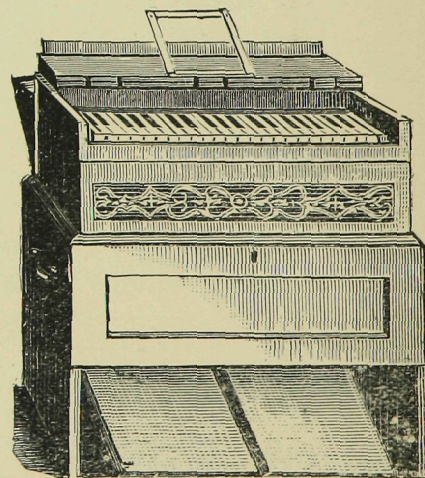
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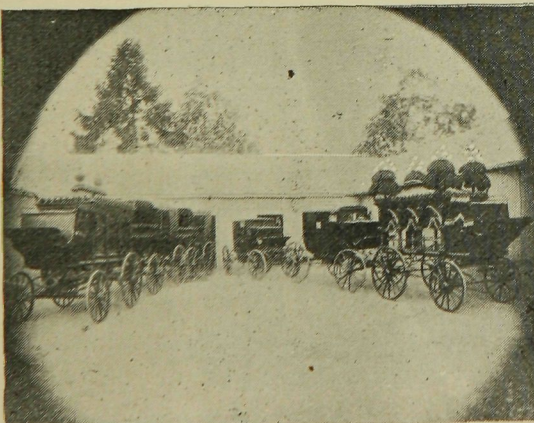
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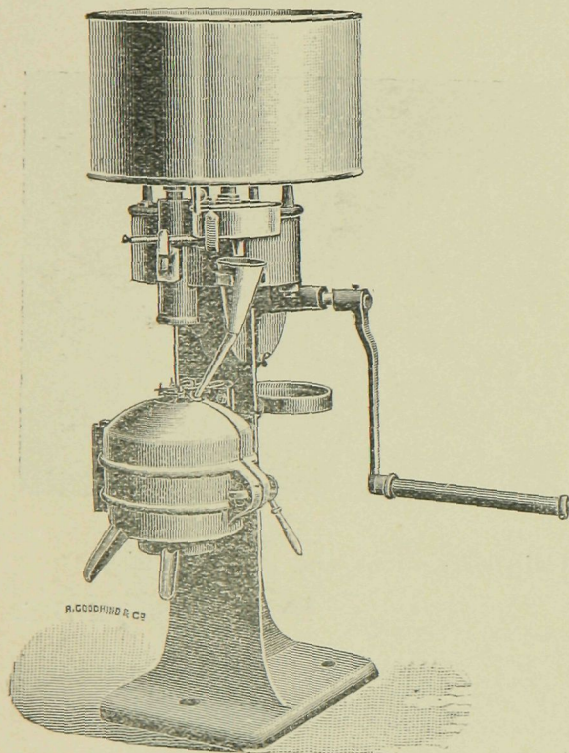
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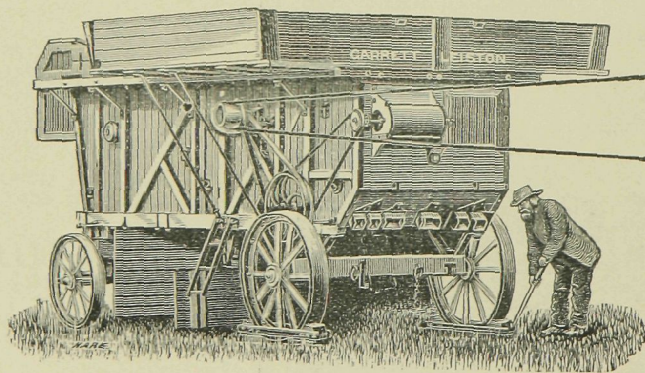
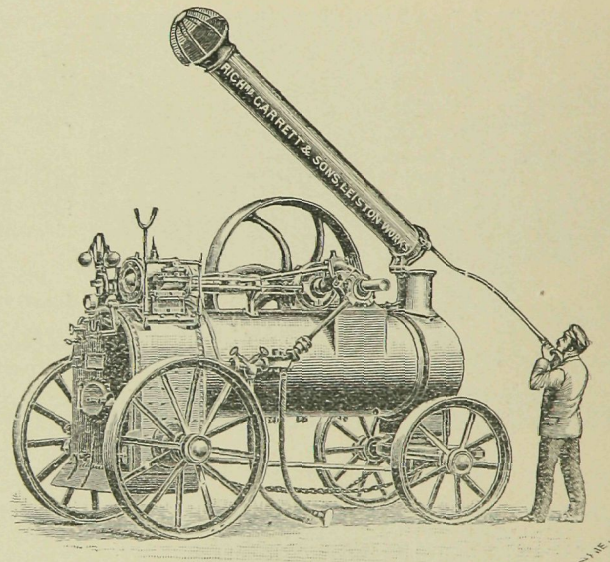
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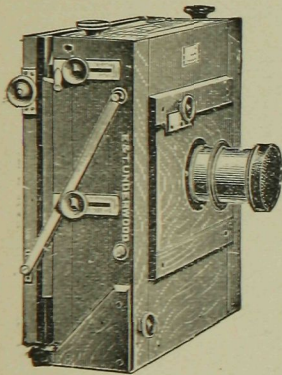
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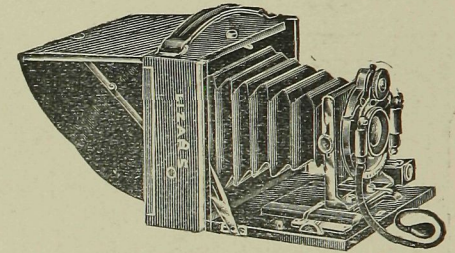
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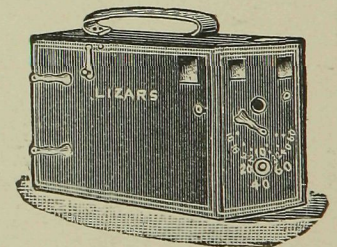
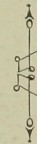
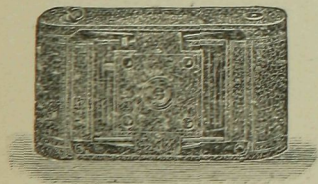
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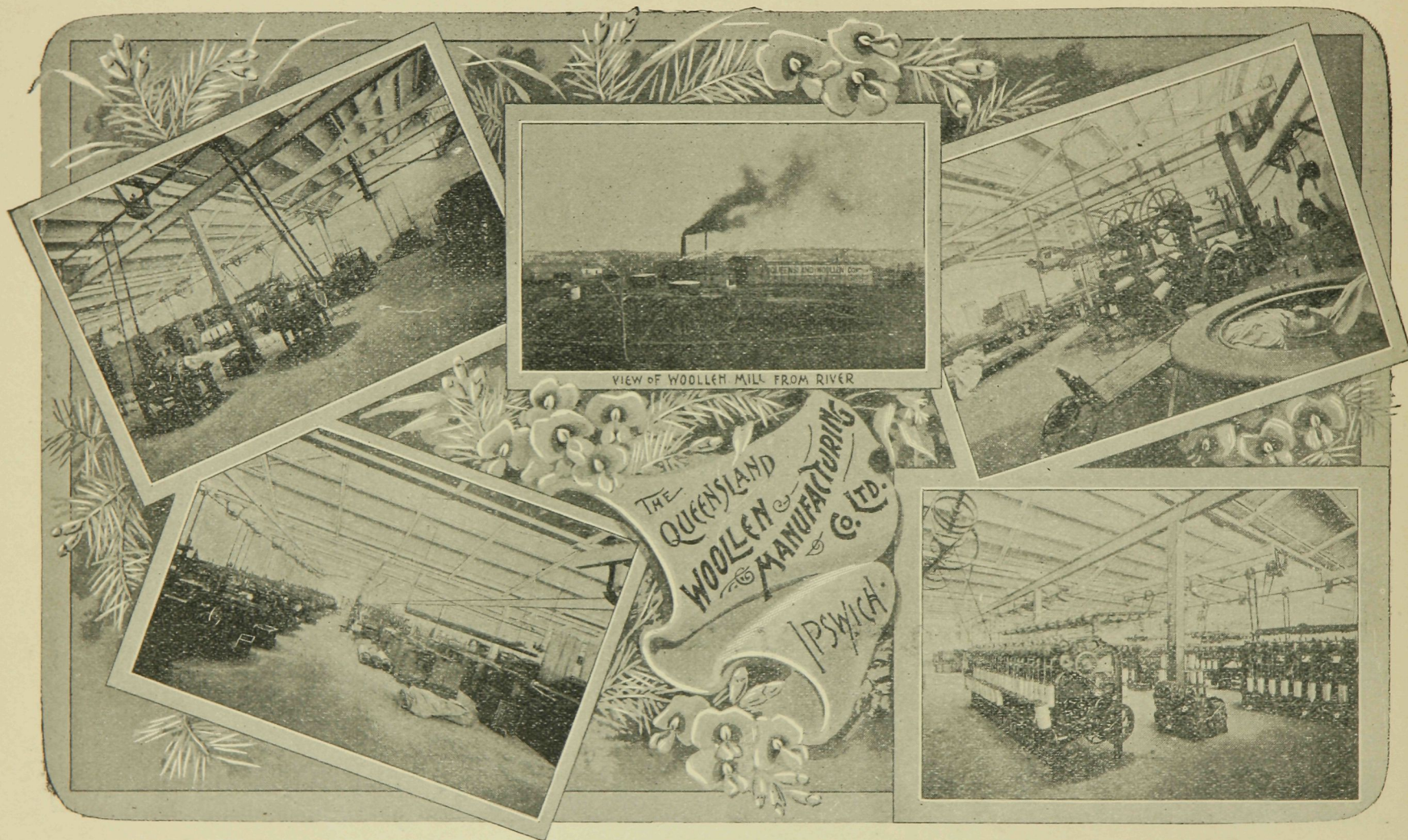
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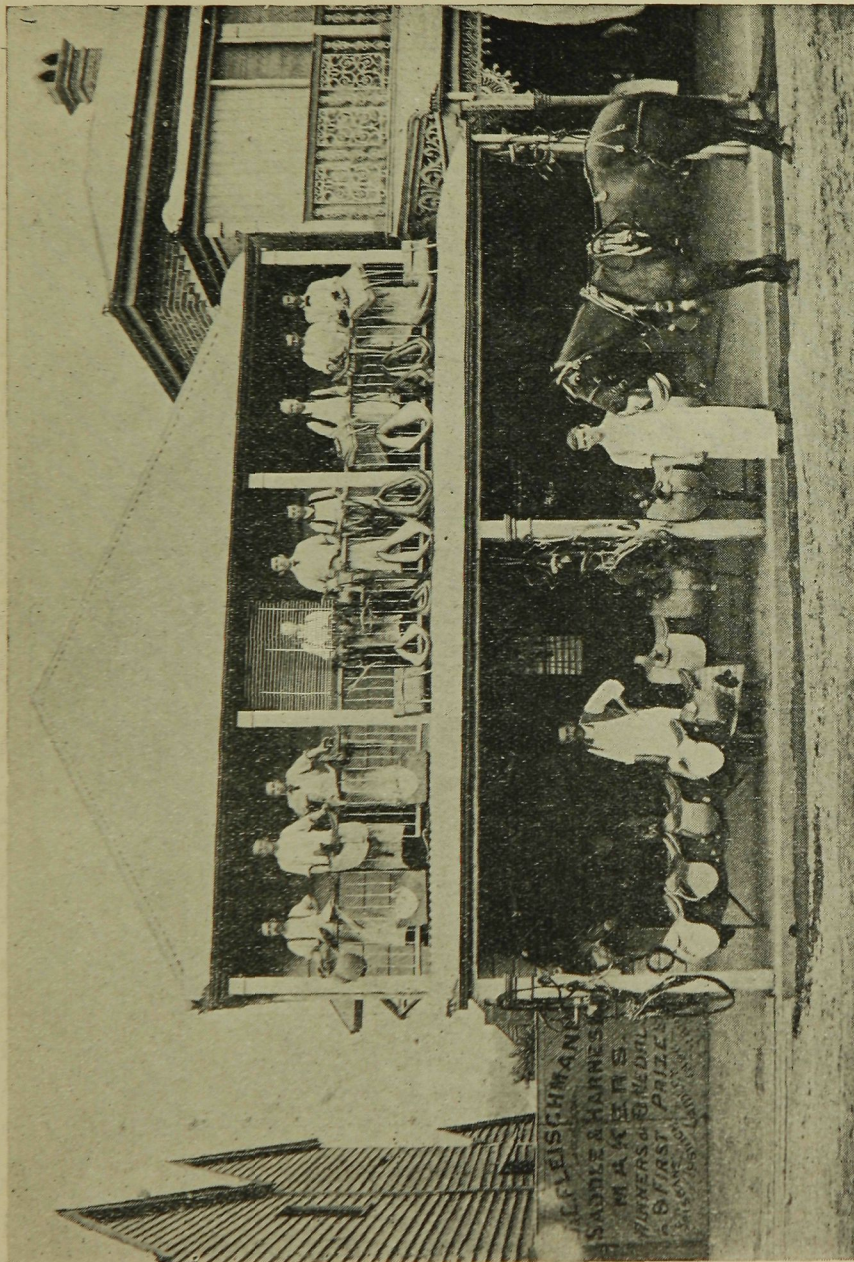
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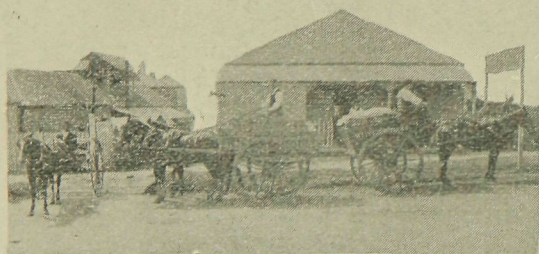
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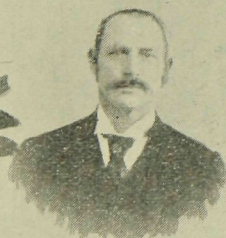


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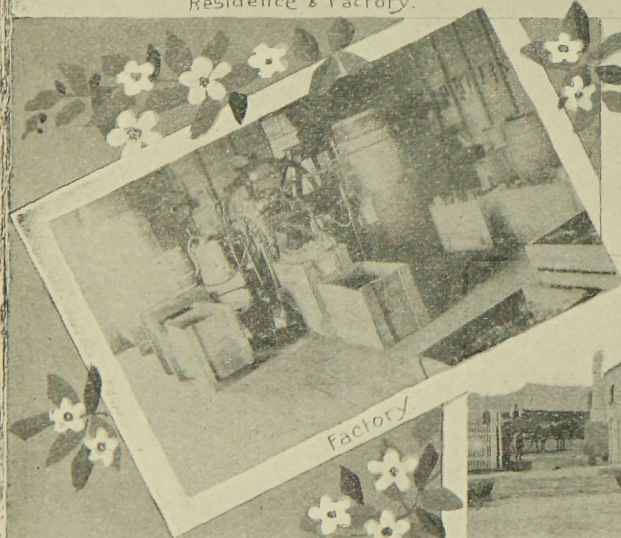
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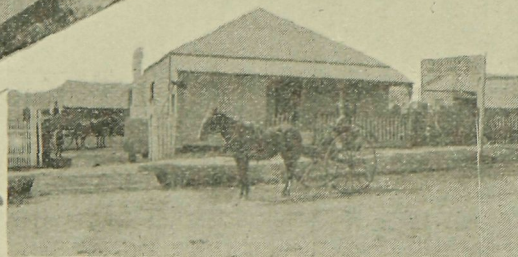
Bottle Department.



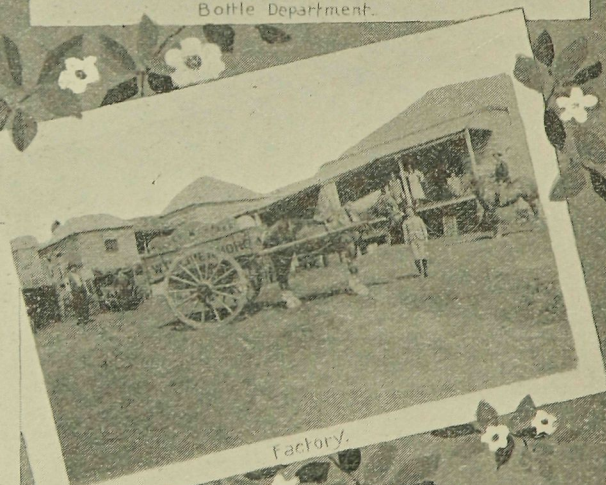
W.G. LIVERMORE



Factory

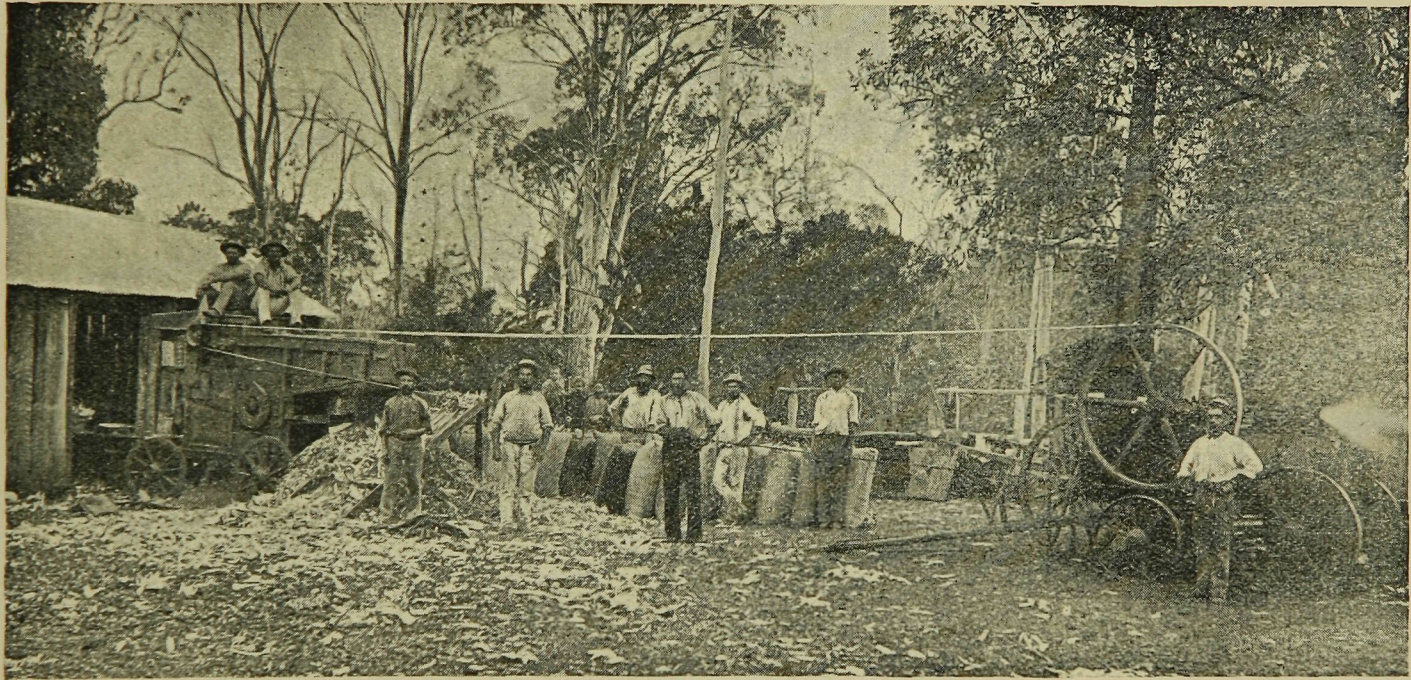


Residence.



Factory.





Husking and shelling maize with steam appliances.

The spa has been on the market for some considerable time, and, as a tonic beverage it is largely consumed, not only in Queensland, but throughout the Australian colonies. In 1880 the Helidon Spa Water Company was formed for the purpose of aerating and bottling the water and placing it upon the market. For some time operations were carried on at the site of the old spring, but in 1881 it was determined to establish a depot in Brisbane for storage and generating purposes. Suitable premises were erected in a central

place in the metropolis, and very large quantities of the tonic are now disposed of. Mr. Meston (who holds the position of State Protector of Aborigines for the colony) tells of an aboriginal legend connected with the spring. It is as follows:—"The Helidon district they called 'Yabarba,' the name of the Curriejung, and the spring was known as 'Woonarrajimmi,' the place 'where the clouds fell down!' In a former age a numerous crowd of blacks were camped on the present spring, and a gin was standing by the fire scratching her

head, from which she extracted two of the species *Pediculus capitis*. While surveying these captives in the palm of her hand, a puff of wind blew them into the fire, an unhappy accident, always attended by penalties terrible to contemplate. Celestial vengeance on this awful occasion was satisfied only by the clouds falling and burying the whole tribe fathoms deep in the earth. From the buried tribe sprang the Helidon spring, the waters of which they call 'kowoor,' regarded as a highly efficacious bath for sick blacks, but not to be



used as a beverage under any possible circumstances, the reason being clearly and logically defined."

Murphy's Creek is the most westerly of the townships in West Moreton, and is situated 10 miles beyond Helidon, at the very foot of the main dividing range. It has an altitude of close upon 800ft. above sea level, and was named after Peter Murphy, who came over to the Downs in 1840 with the explorer Patrick Leslie. Leaving this township and proceeding westerly, the ascent of the range is begun in earnest. The train labours and puffs as it proceeds up the slope, and the attention of the passengers become absorbed by the enchanting view that is gradually opened up. Each fresh turn or curve reveals some piece of beautiful scenery. On all sides are numerous sharp-topped mountain peaks with precipitous timber-covered slopes descending to rocky ravines and verdure-carpeted valleys scores of feet below. From the higher points one may look far away to the east, across the succession of mountains, and behold the picturesque farming settlements grouped on the banks of the Lockyer and other creeks.

### *Queensland Agricultural College.*

The residents of the Lockyer district are fortunate in having established in their midst the first Queensland Agricultural College. It is a Government institution, established with a view to affording facilities for the dissemination of practical and scientific information on general farming subjects. As accessory establishments, there are two experimental farms on the Darling Downs—the Westbrook and the

Hermitage. These are under the management of experts, whose duty it is to experiment in the growth of all kinds of products. A detailed account of the results is made available to the public, and thus the farming community are placed in possession of a fund of useful and invaluable knowledge which could only have been obtained under the old condition of things by individual enterprise, and that might, in many instances, have meant ruination to the person who undertook to do the experimental work. Although the college itself has only been in existence for two years, its influence, coupled with the services which have been rendered by a well-organised Department of Agriculture, having at its head a sympathetic Minister in the person of the Hon. J. V. Chataway, has been exceedingly beneficial to the farming class, and, through them, to the colony at large. Farming in Queensland nowadays is conducted on a much more improved, economic, and consequently more profitable system than was the case a few years back. The policy of the Government in fostering the farming industry has admittedly been a wise one. A great deal has already been accomplished, but the limit of stimulation has by no means been reached. Even with the present restricted population of the colony, there is room for greater production, and when the country becomes more thickly peopled, there is no telling what dimensions the industry may attain. Professor E. M. Shelton, M.Sc., who, for some years, had been Government Instructor in Agriculture, was the first Principal of the College, but he has since given place to Mr. J. Mahon, who formerly

held the position of Government Dairy Expert. The institution is, of course, under the direct control of the Minister for Agriculture, with Mr. Peter M'Lean as the present Under-Secretary. The other present officials are:—J. C. Brunnich, Chemist; Philip M. Pitt, English and Mathematical Master and Secretary; A. Watt, Agriculturist; Hugh W. Gorrie, Horticulturist; R. N. F. Quinn, Mechanical Master; and Charles M'Grath, Superintendent of Dairy. Following is given an outline of the history and objects of the College, together with some other interesting information.

#### HISTORY AND OBJECTS.

The Agricultural College is the logical outcome of a discussion of the question how best to popularise agricultural knowledge. In the Parliamentary session of 1891, £5,000 was voted for the purpose of Agricultural College, and during the year immediately following £5000 was again placed to the credit of the Agricultural College. Both appropriations, however, were allowed to lapse.

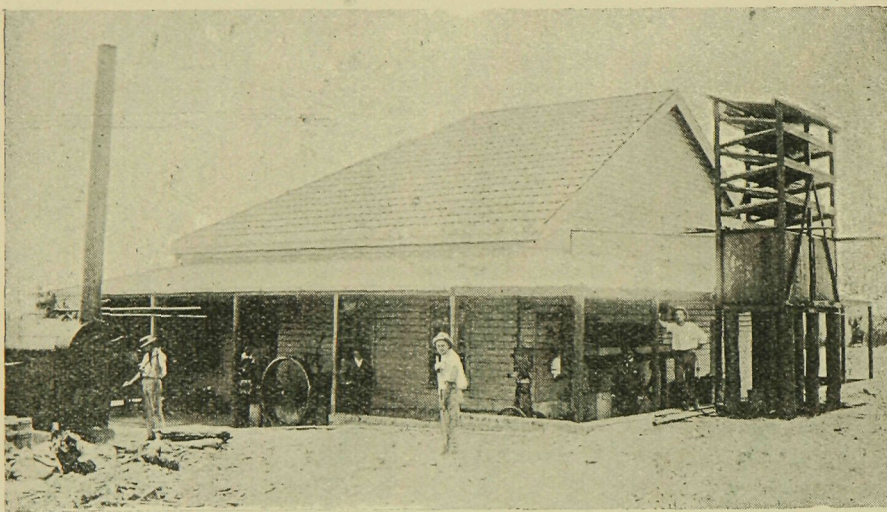
Early in the year 1895 the Under Secretary for Agriculture and the Instructor in Agriculture, under instructions from the then Minister for Lands and Agriculture, the Hon. A. H. Barlow, selected for an "Agricultural College Reserve" about 600 acres of land from that portion of the Rosewood Estate recently acquired by the Government under the terms of the Land Purchase Act of 1894. The area chosen was what is now the southern portion of the College Farm, and lies between the range of hills which traverses the estate, east and west, and Lockyer Creek on the north. The selection of this choice block





Agricultural College dormitories.





Gatton College dairy.

of land for the College Farm was confirmed by Mr. Barlow, who thus settled the troublesome problem of the site of the Queensland Agricultural College.

The Department of Agriculture was created an independent administrative department of government in May, 1896, with the Hon. A. J. Thynne, M.L.C., Minister in charge. One of the first of Mr. Thynne's official acts was to apply to the Lands Department for an increase in the area of the College Farm to 1,692 acres. By this enlargement the eastern boundary was carried considerably to the east, and the southern limitation extended as far as the railway line. In June of that year contracts were let for the erection of

the College buildings, seven in all, consisting of one college building, three dormitories, a dining-hall, including servants' quarters and laundry, and two residences.

The College opened its doors to students on 30th June, 1897. At that time 24 students presented themselves and were duly admitted. On 7th July the College was formally opened by his Excellency Lord Lamington, in the presence of a numerous company, embracing Ministers of the Crown, members of both Houses of Parliament, and citizens. The enrolment of students at the end of the first term had reached 34. Large accessions to the number of students were made during the second term. The total enrolment for the

first year reached 54, a number which nearly represented the capacity of the school, so far as dormitory accommodation is concerned.

#### OBJECTS.

The Queensland Agricultural College exists as one of the means to the upbuilding of agriculture and scientific farming in the colony. Its primary purpose is the training and education of young men in the art of agriculture and the sciences related thereto. Its field of work also properly includes experiments planned to add to our knowledge of agriculture.

The training, studies, and work of teachers and pupils are all planned to the end that they may help young men to a knowledge of the methods and reasons of successful farming. There is no thought of making learned men; but no effort is spared in aiding the development of useful ones.

Each pupil actively participates in all the operations of a well-conducted farm. The art of agriculture itself is taught in such a manner as to fix the habit of work in the student as well as to give familiarity to the practical details of farm life. The daily lesson in the lecture-room is emphasised in the work of garden, field, and dairy; thus the chemistry of books and the laboratory becomes something real when its application is seen in cultivated soils and growing crops.

#### EXPERIMENTS.

Few farmers have the equipment of means and education required in conducting accurate experiments on special lines. The experiment work of the College ought to follow lines laid down in the general practice of farmers of the colony; but

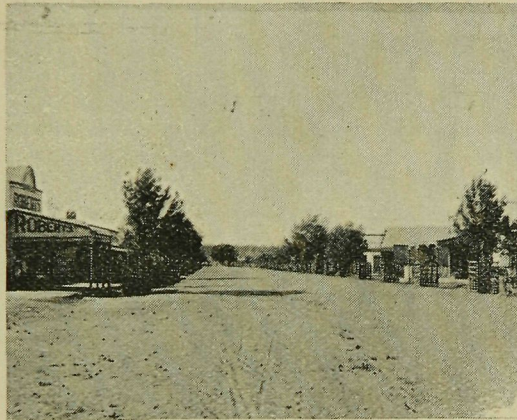


while following it will also lead. The work will properly include cultural tests of standard crops; trials of new and promising sorts; the effects of different manures upon various crops; trials of grasses and forage plants; tests of different stock foods in the production of milk and meat; the growth of fibre plants; researches into the scientific and economic questions involved in the production of butter and cheese; improvements in dairy stock; methods of silo-making and the manufacture of ensilage; the analysis of soils; the chemical analysis of manures, natural and artificial, and of the various products of the farm, garden, and orchard.



Gatton College piggery.

There are now about 160 acres under cultivation. An additional 150 acres are being prepared for tillage, and these will be sown with seed early next season. Included in this year's crops are cereals of all varieties, roots of many kinds, fodder



Railway-street, Gatton.

of several descriptions, special kinds of American tobacco of the Yellow Prior and White Burley variety, which were recommended by Mr. R. S. Neville, the American tobacco expert. Amongst the experimental crops are numerous varieties of artificial grasses, several kinds of maize and other products, all of which are to be subjected to a series of tests respecting their adaptability to the exigencies of the Queensland soil and climate. A system of irrigation has been introduced on a small scale. By means of a six-horse power portable engine, a steam pump, and the necessary supply of indiarubber piping, water is distributed over the land adjoining the river, and the venture has proved eminently beneficial in the case of the fruit and horticultural section of the farm.

## INSTRUCTION.

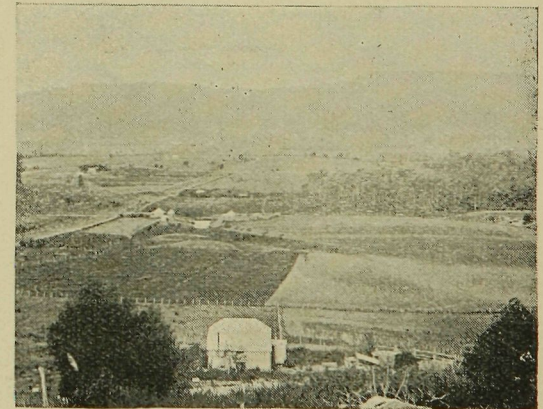
The course of study involves manual labour and class work and preparation for

it, in about equal portions of the student's time. The school is divided, for purposes of instruction, into two nearly equal divisions, each working on alternate days, in field and class-room.

## EXPENSES.

The yearly charge, covering tuition, board, washing, room-rent, and lights, has been fixed at £25, payable half-yearly in advance. The student who, from any cause, retires from the College during the term, is not entitled to a refund of any portion of the advance payment made on his behalf.

Students of mature age may, under conditions approved by the Principal, reside



Farm scene at Laidley Creek.

outside the boundaries of the College farm, while partaking of the privileges and responsibilities of the College in all other respects. The annual fee for non-resident students has been fixed at £2 2s.

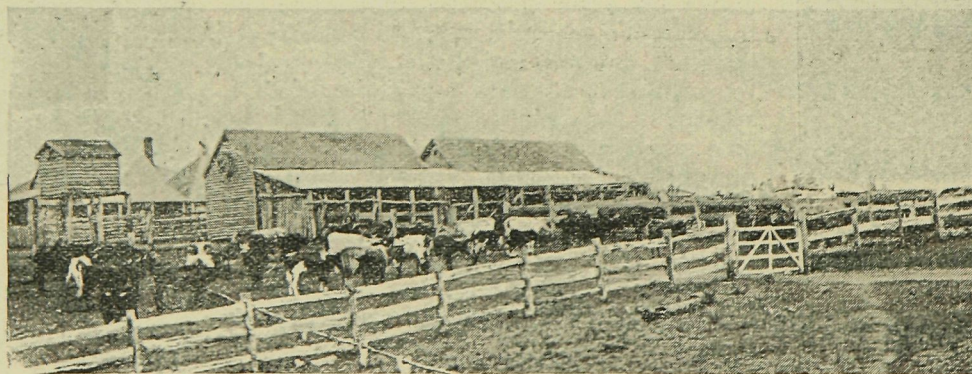


## DAIRYING OPERATIONS.

One thing which the College authorities have set themselves to do is to demonstrate the advantages of dairying when scientifically conducted. With a view to this end a large dairy herd has been secured. It numbers 120 cows (most of which are in milk), including ten pure-bred Ayrshires, six Jerseys, one Holstein-Frisian, and several Devons, the remainder being odd lots of a good milking strain purchased from the farmers in the neighbourhood. The stud bulls comprise one Jersey, two Ayrshires, and one Holstein. The Ayrshires were bred by Mr. T. A. Grant, of Victoria, the Jerseys by the late Hon. James White, of New South Wales, and the Holsteins by Mr. D. Mitchell, of Cove Hill, Lilydale, Victoria. The intention is to make the dairy self-supporting—an object, of course, always sought to be achieved by the ordinary dairyman. So far the result has been eminently satisfactory. A return kept by the authorities shows that a given number of cows netted

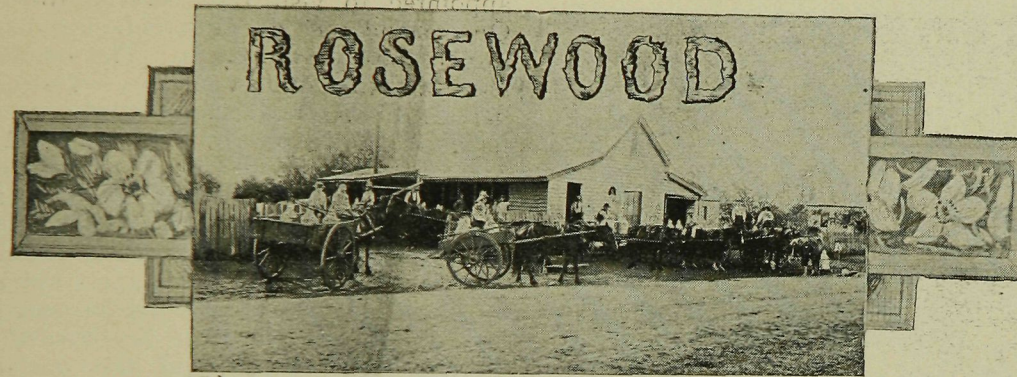
25s. per head for a month. Every facility is provided for the conversion of the milk into marketable products. The dairy house is a very complete one, and is equipped with modern dairy machinery. The cheese-making appliances are also of the most modern type. Everything is kept scrupulously clean. Steam jets and hot pipes are provided in all necessary places, and the utensils are subjected to a thorough scalding after each using. Butter and cheese making are rather extensively engaged in, and small consignments of both products are being shipped to London fortnightly for exhibition purposes. The manufacture of condensed milk is also conducted on a small scale, and the article produced has been pronounced by experts to be equal to the best Swiss preserved milk. It may be mentioned that all the milk is thoroughly pasteurised before being used for butter or cheese making. As might be expected, the cows are well treated. They are fed largely on specially-grown fodder, and, for their con-

sumption during the forthcoming winter, three silos are stocked with ensilage, representing in the aggregate 210 tons. In addition to this 120 tons of stock ensilage is to be made. In conjunction with dairying, pig-feeding is to be carried on. A substantial piggery has just been erected at a cost of several hundred pounds. It is sectioned off into 40 pens, and is well-drained and ventilated. Small paddocks, which are to form runs for the store and breeding pigs, are in course of preparation. These are to be planted with lucerne, artificial grasses, and root plants. A few splendid Berkshires have been obtained from the Southern colonies, and shortly the College should be possessed of an excellent herd of swine. Altogether the College promises to be an important factor in assisting to develop the resources of the colony, and the fact of its establishment should be an additional inducement to would-be emigrants to come to Queensland.



Tenthill Dairy.





The Rosewood Co-operative Creamery.

**T**HE Rosewood district is sandwiched between the Ipswich and Lockyer electorates, the former practically forming its eastern and the latter its western boundary. As in the case of all the other West Moreton electorates, the Rosewood area comprises a variety of soils; and grazing, agricultural, and dairying pursuits are all pretty extensively engaged in by the inhabitants. The bulk of the land at present under tillage lies northward from the township of Rosewood, and the most distant part can be reached by a couple of hours drive at the outside. The area in question is on a succession of low, irregular hills, which were originally covered with a dense brigalow scrub. Within the last score of years, very much of the land has been denuded of its native timber. These cleared areas are tenanted by an energetic and enterprising community of farmers, whose success, on the whole, has been rather remarkable, more especially during late years. The fertility

of the easily-worked friable soil cannot be gainsaid. It produces large yields of grain, fodder, and other crops periodically. Here and there patches of scrub are still standing, and, viewed from the summit of one of the many elevations, the scene on all sides is indeed a picturesque one. The numerous gently sloping or abruptly rising ridges—the latter with their graceful looking summits—the alternating light and dark colours of the crops, and the standing scrub trees; the prettily built and conveniently located dwelling-houses, surrounded by flower gardens and orchards; the many herds of sleek, well-fed, and peaceful dairy cattle grazing on the hill-sides; and the distant and less easily accessible scrub-clad peaks, with the towering pines rising far above all other growths, present a beautiful panoramic scene that a patriotic beholder may gaze upon with becoming pride.

As to the quality and utility of the land, it may justly be claimed that few, if any,

similar areas of country in the colony have, within the same period, produced a greater amount of wealth from their crops and herbage. For many years the Rosewood scrub lands have been famous for their prolific crops, and, to-day, the success achieved by the dairying industry may be added to the success of field production. The transition from the agricultural to the dairying stage is a significant one. Some years back the settlers relied almost exclusively upon agriculture as their means of livelihood. Admittedly, a few of them did a little in dairying, but the work was



Mr. D. T. Keogh, M.L.A., Rosewood Electorate.

conducted under very primitive conditions as compared with present-day methods. The milk was set and skimmed in the old-fashioned way, and subsequently churned





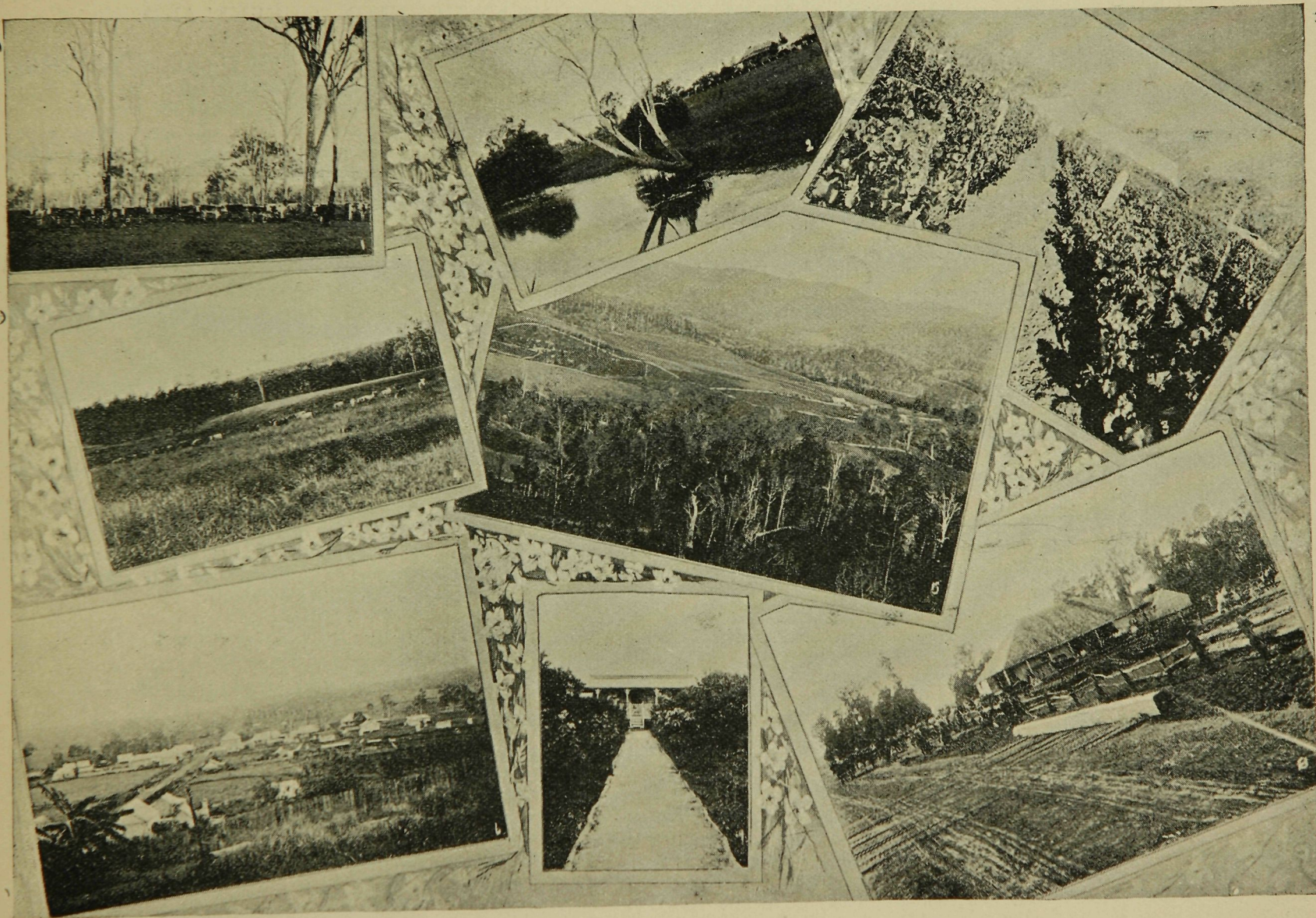
Farm scene near Lanefield.

under conditions which certainly did not tend to ensure equality in the character of the butter produced. There were no appliances for regulating the temperature of the rooms where the churning was carried on. On the whole the butter was variable in quality and did not command a uniform market value. For the greater part, farmers kept cows for the purpose alone of supplying the household with milk. Little or no profit was derived from

them, nor was any particular care bestowed upon them. The beasts had to depend upon the natural grasses for their sustenance, the feeding of his stock being the last thing the farmer thought of. In the early part of the present decade the Government undertook to foster the dairying industry. Mr. John Mahon (now principal of the Agricultural College), who had received a thorough training in dairying in all its branches in Victoria, was

appointed to visit the rural centres in Queensland and give instruction in dairying to those requiring it. The outcome has been eminently satisfactory. Dairying has, since then, made rapid strides, and it promises to become one of the leading industries in the colony. The Rosewood people were the first to engage in the undertaking, upon the new principle, with an earnestness which assured ultimate success. About nine years ago a number of the residents met to discuss the question as to the best course to be pursued to secure the expansion of the dairying industry in their midst. The practical outcome of their deliberations was the establishment of the Lanefield Co-operative Dairy Company. From that time forward dairying in the district advanced by leaps and bounds. The supply of milk to the factory has been continuously on the increase, and gradually creameries have been established throughout the district, till to-day Rosewood is the home of quite a number of such co-operative concerns, and it has the reputation of being the premier dairying district in the colony. From this comparatively small centre more butter is produced than from the whole of the vast expanse of splendid land on the Darling Downs, on the Western side of the coast range of mountains. The residents of Rosewood went about the business in a systematic manner, and with a determination to succeed. And they have succeeded. Dairying was made a scientific study, and is now conducted on progressive principles. Gradually, but surely, the dairy herds are being improved, and many first-class milch cows are now to be found here. Jerseys and Ayrshires are





1. Scene on Glenalvon Station. 2. Normanby Station house. 3. Lambert's vineyard, near Mt. Walker. 4. Farm scene near Rosewood. 5. Farms near Ashwell. 6. The township of Marburg 7. Residence of Mr. Dutney, sen., near Rosewood. 8. The Lanefield Co-operative Creamery.





Mr. Mark Bensley's home, near Rosewood.

the most favoured for milking purposes, and a strain of one or other of those breeds is to be found in nearly every farmer's herd. The custom of separating the calves from the cows, and the hand-rearing of the former (where they are not destroyed), is being universally practised in this district, with the most beneficial results. The feeding of the cows, too, on artificial grasses and other fodder has been resorted to very largely. In the aggregate a very consider-

able area, which formerly was devoted to the growth of crops for the market, is now utilised for the production of fodder, upon which the cows are fed the year through. That this method of procedure is a profitable one, where properly conducted, has been proved beyond a doubt. With no greater number of cows than can be easily milked and managed by a family, quite a number of the farmers are making a very good living. Some, indeed, are doing more

than that. They are putting by a goodly percentage of their takings, thus enhancing the prospect of comfort for themselves in days of adversity or old age. Were proof of this needed it might be found on reference to the documents recording the operations of the Government Savings Bank. There it is shown that the deposits in the Rosewood branch of the institution total about £10,000 for the year. The district in which this branch operates embraces a radius of only a few miles, and certainly nothing could be more clearly indicative of the prosperity of the place than the figures quoted.

As exemplifying the individual prosperity of the settlers the following instance may be cited:—Nine years ago a person now well known in the district bought a farm for £1250. All that he had to pay down was £50. This left a balance owing of £1200, on which he was charged 8 per cent. interest. The prospect, formidable-looking as it might appear to some, in no way disheartened him. He was satisfied with his bargain, set to work to clear off his liability, and succeeded in doing so in the space of about 8½ years. Most of the money that achieved this remarkable success was made out of dairying. At the present time some farmers receive, from the local creameries, an average of from £20 to £25 per month for the milk supplied to them. Over and above this, they realise from £10 to £14 a month from the sale of pigs, and this income is still further augmented by the sale of other farm products.

With such gratifying returns for one's labour it is not surprising that the production of cream in the district is rapidly on the increase. Here, as in other localities,



the co-operative creameries despatch their cream to one or other of the butter factories located in Brisbane and Ipswich.



Farm scene at Ashwell.

The cream is consigned from the various railway stations; the greatest quantity being sent from the Rosewood station. For the six months ended on the 30th June, 1898, some 42,423 gallons of cream were forwarded from that station. Since that date there has been a considerable increase, and the weekly consignments for some time past averaged 250 cans, each can containing 10 gallons, which gives an aggregate for the year of 130,000 gallons. Pig-raising is almost invariably associated with dairying, and in this respect the Rosewood district forms no exception to the rule. Perhaps in no area of a similar size are to be found larger swine herds. The porkers are fed largely upon the skimmed milk obtained from the creameries, and they

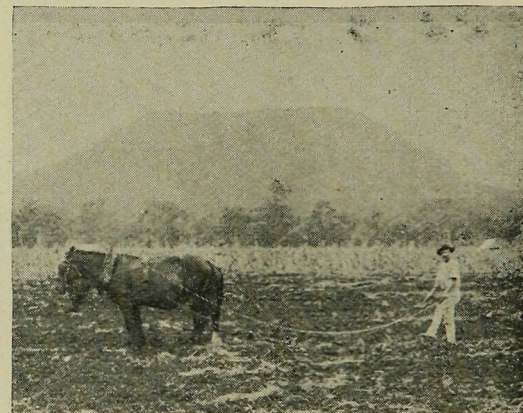
prove a splendid source of income. With anything like judicious care a pig is ready for the market at the age of five or six months; the average price which it brings at that stage of growth is from £1 10s. to £1 15s. At such figures they pay handsomely. The farmer has no difficulty whatever in disposing of them. In the metropolis are two extensive bacon-curing factories, owned respectively by Messrs. J. C. Hutton and Co. and Messrs. Howes Bros. and Co. Each firm has buyers who visit the different centres periodically, and make their purchases direct from the farmer, the latter receiving payment upon delivery of the pigs at the nearest railway station. From the Rosewood station alone as many as 500 pigs are forwarded to the



Scrub scene at Minden.

city monthly, and this represents upwards of £750 for distribution monthly amongst the farmers.

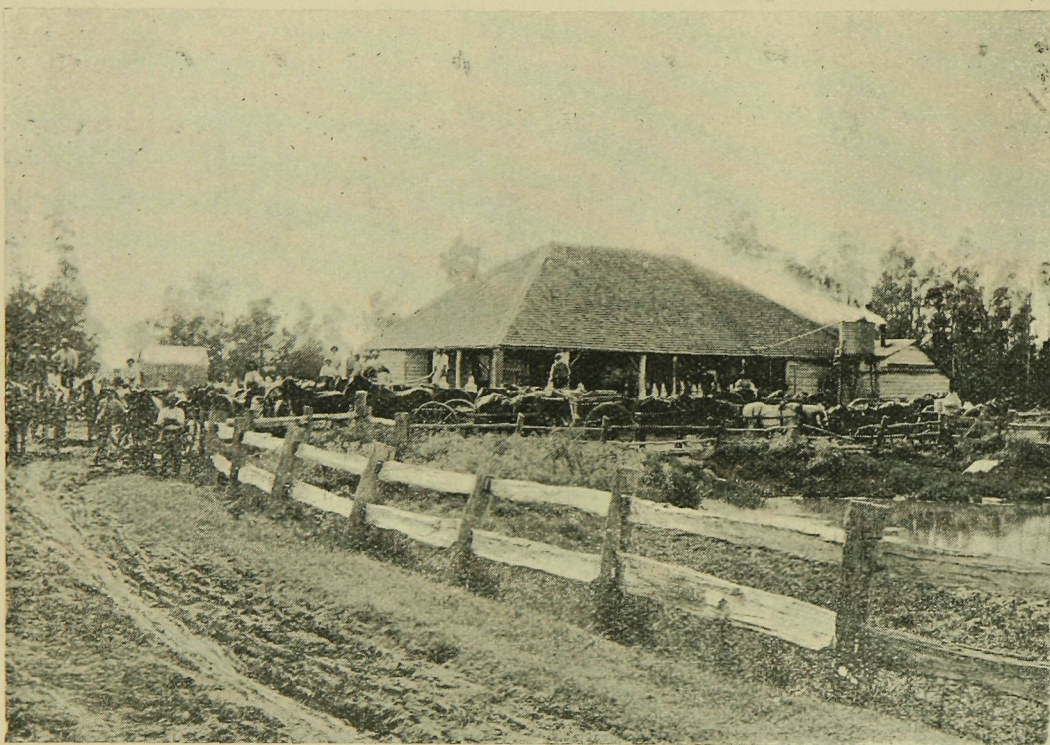
The oldest and the largest co-operative dairy in the colony is the Lanefield dairy, already referred to. The head-quarters are



Farm scene; Mt. Walker in the background.

at Lanefield, about two miles from Rosewood, and there is a branch creamery at Ashwell, which is a mile and a half from the main building. The company was registered nine years ago. Operations were started on a comparatively small scale, a fact which is apparent when it is mentioned that the total amount paid for milk for September, 1890, was £105 15s. 10d.; whereas the aggregate monthly payments now reach between £800 and £900. Machinery of the requisite capacity to enable the company to treat the small quantity of milk then obtainable was at first secured. As the residents realised the benefits to be derived as a result of co-operation the number of suppliers very soon increased, and the consequent augmentation in the supply of milk neces-





The Lanefield Co-operative Creamery.

sitated the making of better provision for expeditiously extracting the cream from the fluid. Improvements were effected as the financial position of the company warranted, and to-day the company has the reputation of possessing one of the best-equipped creameries in the colony. At the head factory there are two separators of a capacity of 400 and 265 gallons respectively, as well as a 400-gallon Pasteuriser. All the milk is put through

the latter before passing into the separators, it being fed into it from a huge vat placed at such an elevation as to allow of the milk reaching the separators by means of gravitation. Steam is the motive power for driving the machinery, and for cleansing purposes the building is furnished with quite a number of hot and cold water and steam taps.

As showing the growth of the company, and the sure and steady expansion of the

dairying industry in the immediate vicinity, it will be interesting to quote a few figures indicating the increase in the aggregate supply and the profits realised by some of the individual suppliers. In all, there are now 63 suppliers, and for the month of February of this year the average daily supply of milk totalled 2400 gallons. For the six months ended 30th September, 1898, the company received 190,213 gallons, being 54,732 gallons in excess of the quantity received during the corresponding period in the previous year. This supply produced 81,705 lb. of butter, being 25,025 lb. more than was manufactured for the company for the six months ended on the 30th September, 1897. For each of the four months immediately succeeding September last the milk supplies were—



An Ashwell farm.

November, 49,264 gallons; December, 59,495 gallons; January, 53,420 gallons; and February, 58,008 gallons; or a total



for the period embraced of 220,188 gallons, being 28,975 gallons more than for the preceding six months. The butter produced for the months alluded to was as follows:—November, 18,531lb.; December, 21,912lb.; January, 20,299lb.; February, 21,830lb.—a total of 82,572lb., or 36 tons 17cwt. 1qr., which realised the sum of £4084 11s. 5d. Working expenses having been deducted from that amount, there was left a sum of £3304 14s. 4d. for distribution amongst the 63 suppliers, who are paid at so much per lb. for the actual butter-fat which their milk produces, the rate being regulated by the price at which the butter sells. The following table shows the highest amounts paid to individual suppliers for the periods mentioned—

Month.	Amount.	Milk Supplied.	Test.	Butter-fat.	Price Paid per lb.
1898.					
November	£20 7 3	1657 galls.	3·2	543lb.	9d.
December	25 13 3	2117 „	3·0	635lb.	9 7/10d.
1899.					
January	22 12 7	1997 „	3·2	639lb.	8½d.
February	21 13 1	2094 „	3·4	712lb.	7¾d.

Such is a brief outline of the history of the company, and it shows the success which has been achieved by co-operation, and the benefits accruing to the milk-suppliers, who, by the way, are all shareholders. Its progress is typical of what has been accomplished by numerous other similar, although smaller, companies.

In the Rosewood district itself there are several other co-operative creameries. They are, it is true, all smaller than that at Lanefield, but several of them are treating upwards of 700 gallons of milk daily, and individual suppliers to them draw cheques quite as large as those paid to suppliers to the Lanefield company. Connected with several of the larger co-operative creameries are stores, through the medium of which the shareholders obtain their supplies of groceries at a trifle over cost price.

The two most important towns in the Rosewood district are Rosewood and Marburg. The former is situated about 12 miles from Ipswich, on the main line of railway, and is a very busy centre. There

addition to a number of creameries located at convenient places throughout the district, the residents (thanks to the enterprise of one of their number, a Mr. F. W. Linning), have a butter factory established right in their midst. To those who do not care about consigning their cream to more distant factories this is a distinct advantage. They may either convey their milk to one of Mr. Linning's creameries, and receive payment in the usual way, or, if they prefer it, dispose of their cream to that gentleman at the ruling market rate for the commodity. The factory is desig-



Mr. Eisenmenger's farm, Kirchheim.

are the usual number of commercial houses, churches, and educational institutions, and ample hotel accommodation. Marburg is situated in a valley, and about seven miles, across country, from Rosewood, and 12 miles from Ipswich. It forms the commercial centre of an excellent agricultural and dairying district. In

nated "The Kirchheim Valley Butter Factory," and is fitted up with the requisite machinery facilities for producing a really first-class article. An average of two tons of butter is being made weekly, and, like all other factory-made butter in Southern Queensland, the article is readily disposed of at a remunerative figure.





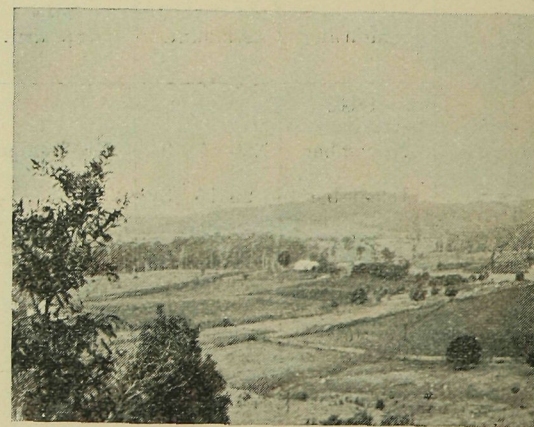
Ploughing on Normanby Station—double furrow.

The picturesque township of Marburg, which is hemmed in between two ridges on the eastern fringe of the famous Rosewood Scrub, is about five miles distant from Walloon, the railway outlet to that part of the district. It is here that sugar production is engaged in to some extent. The industry was initiated by Mr. T. L. Smith, who has several hundred acres of sugarcane growing. A number of years back he established a crushing-mill, which has

worked regularly every season since then, and the undertaking has certainly proved a remunerative one. About three or four years ago an agitation arose in favour of sugar growing in the district by the smaller farmers, and an effort was made by the local residents to secure the Woodland's (Mr. Smith's) mill and work it on the co-operative principle. The attempt failed, although another arrangement was agreed to, which, in a measure, met the

ends sought to be achieved by the farmers. A number of the latter undertook to grow specified areas of cane, which Mr. Smith agreed to purchase at a price to be regulated by the market value of sugar. This arrangement has worked so well that the output of sugar from the district for the past season was a record one. The cultivation of sugar cane is not confined to those who grow it for the market. Several of the farmers grow it for the purpose of feeding their stock, and they find that it makes a really splendid fodder.

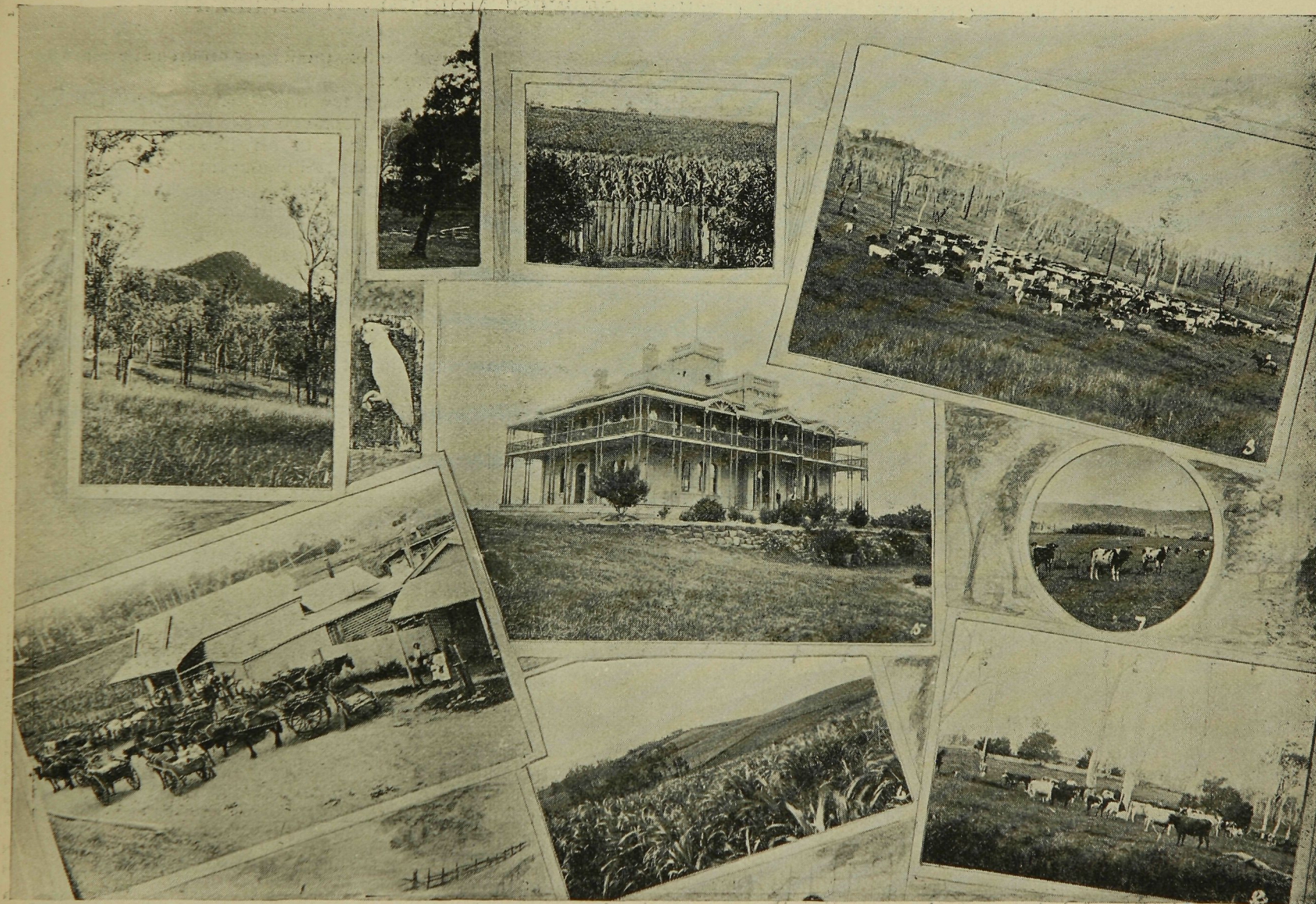
The forest land included within the boundaries of the Rosewood electorate lies along the valley of the Bremer River to the south of the Rosewood township. Agriculture is carried on to some extent at



Scene near Ashwell.

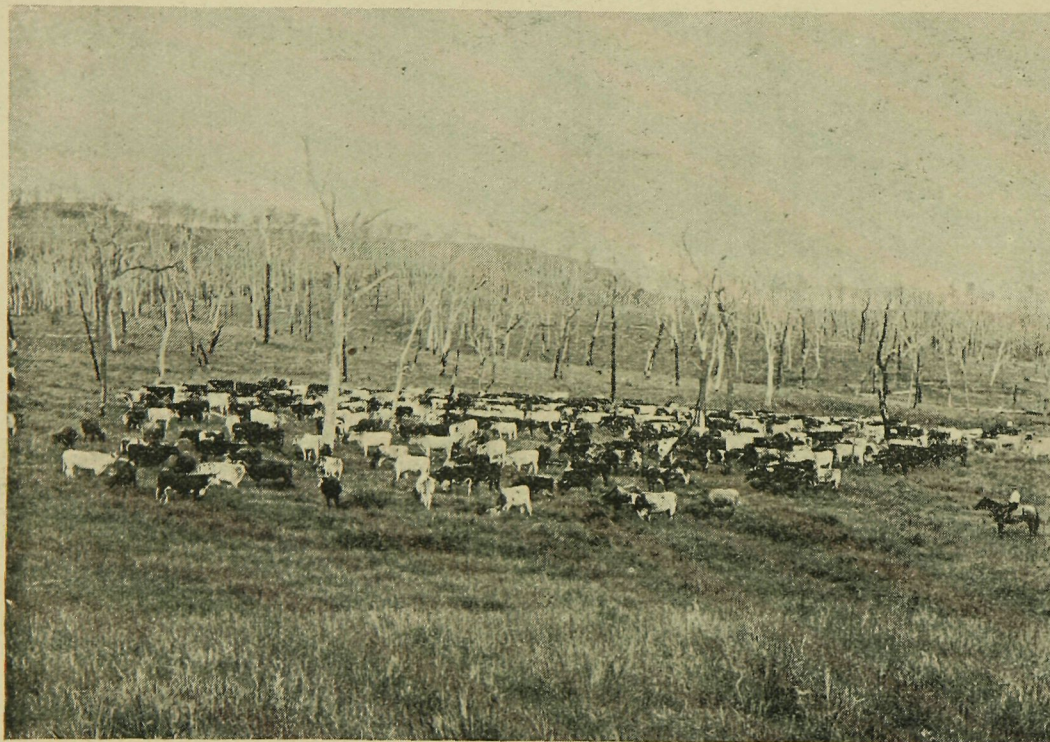
favoured places along the river banks; but, for the greater part, the land is devoted to grazing. The tenants of the smaller blocks





1. Mt. Walker at a distance. 2. Farm scene. 3. Normanby Estate cattle. 4. Mr. J. L. Frederick's creamery at Marburg. 5. Mr. T. L. Smith's residence, Marburg. 6. Farm scene at Tallegalla. 7. Dairy cattle at Lanefield. 8. Cattle at Glenalvon.





Normanby Station cattle.

derive a very good income from dairying, but on the larger holdings the operations are restricted to cattle-fattening. The two largest estates in this neighbourhood are the Glenalvon and Normanby runs. The former has a delightful situation on the banks of the Bremer River, within seven miles of the flourishing township of Rosewood. It comprises about 9000 acres, and is under the management of Mr. William Robinson. About 1000 head of cattle are

turned off the place each year, although it would be possible to fatten a far greater number. A goodly proportion of the land is composed of rich black soil admirably adapted for cultivation purposes, and the pity is that it is not put to such a use. Certainly the land is capable of supporting a very much larger number of settlers than at present gain a living from it, and no doubt the time will come when, instead of being utilised merely as a cattle run, it

will be tenanted by a progressive class of farmers.

Only a few miles across country to the east of Glenalvon is the Normanby Estate, the property of Mr. Donald S. Wallace. It is under the management of Mr. T. B. Stanners. The situation is an admirable one. It is distant not more than four miles from the railway township of Harrisville, and is within comparatively easy reach of the larger centres of population, where a market is found for the fine mobs of fat bullocks which are periodically turned off the estate. The station house is situated on the bank of Warroolaba Creek, whilst the Warrill Creek, a never-failing stream, skirts the boundary of the property for some miles. Having an area of upwards of 20,000 acres, well watered,

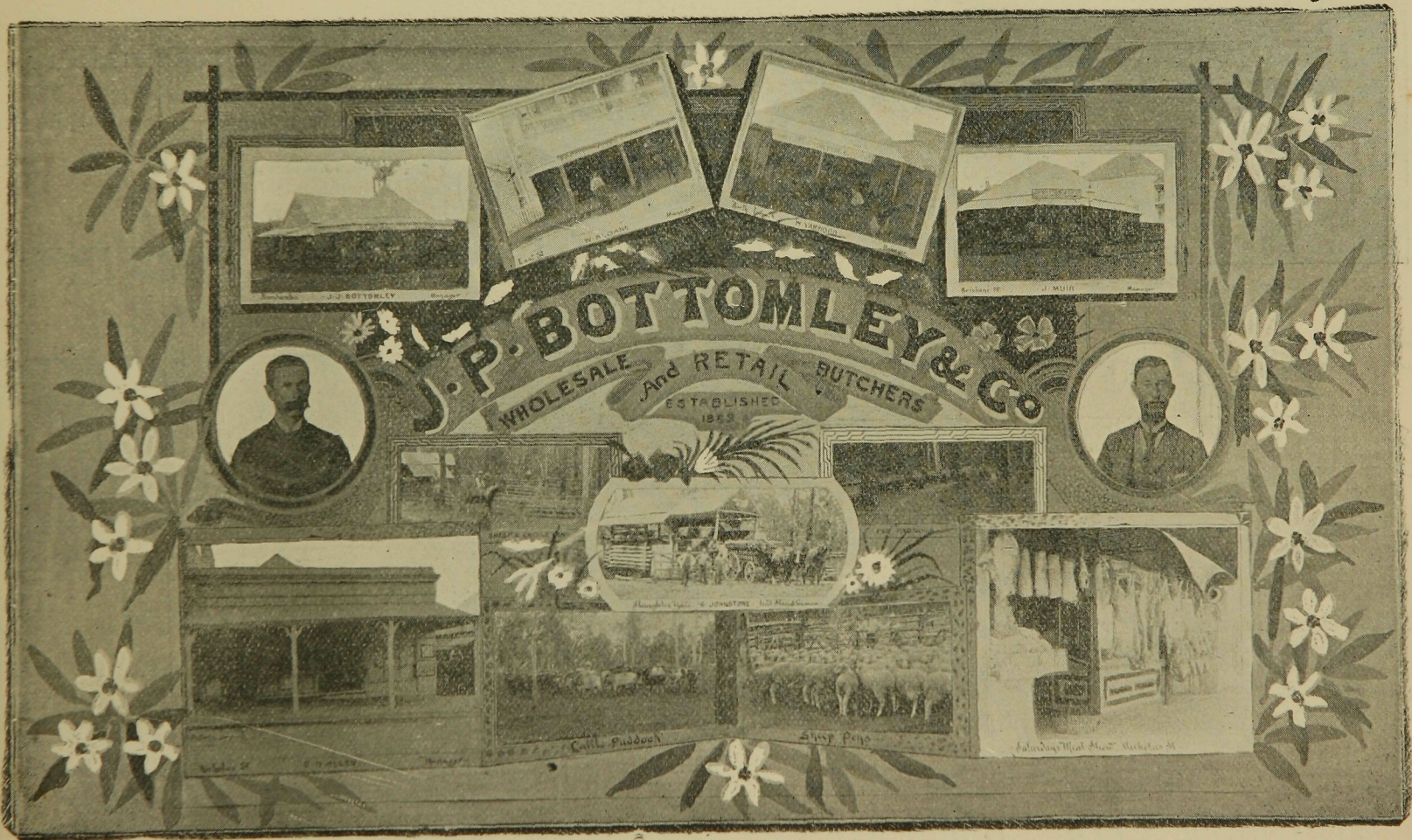


Grazing paddock near Mt. Walker

and with an abundance of grass, the estate may well be classed amongst the best of its kind in the colony. Formerly the place



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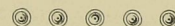
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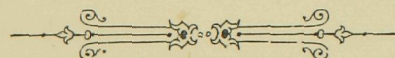
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First Prize for Buggies and Sulkies at Ipswich and Rosewood Shows, 1898; also all First and only Silver Medal at Gatton Show, 1898, and Boonah.



JOHNSON BROS., Undertakers,

ON ADJOINING PREMISES.

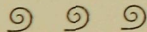




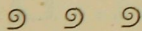
# LOWOOD CREAMERY COMPANY,

## BUTTER MANUFACTURERS.

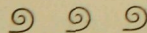
Our commodious Butter Factory and Cold Stores in Brisbane, and the Branch Factory at Lowood, are furnished with the latest approved appliances.



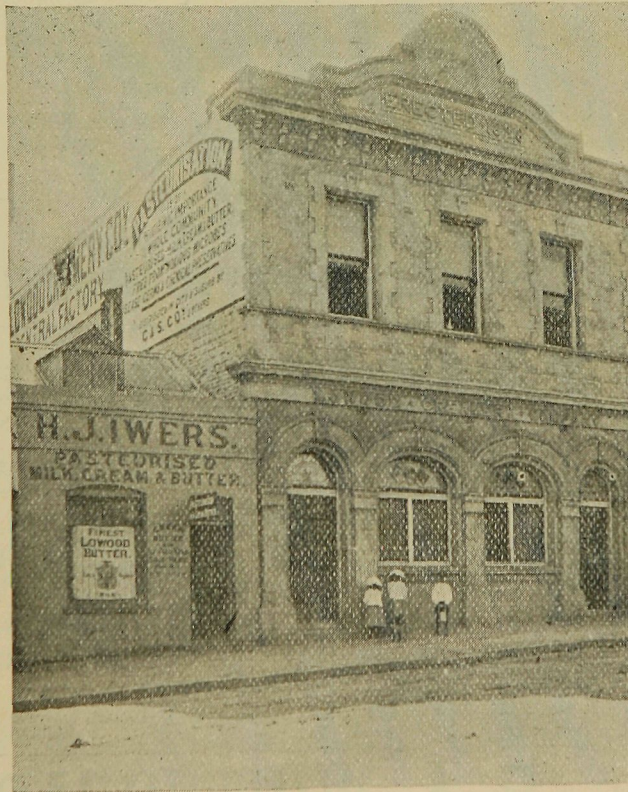
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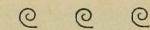


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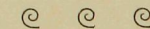


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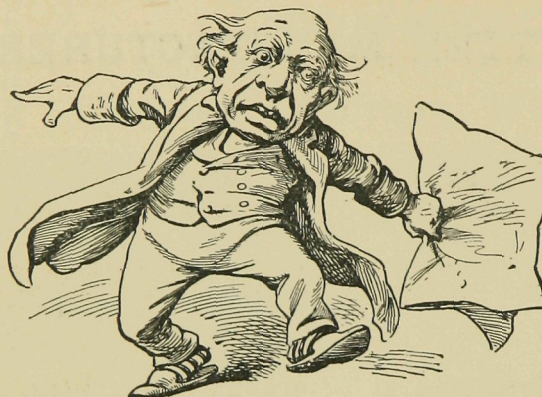
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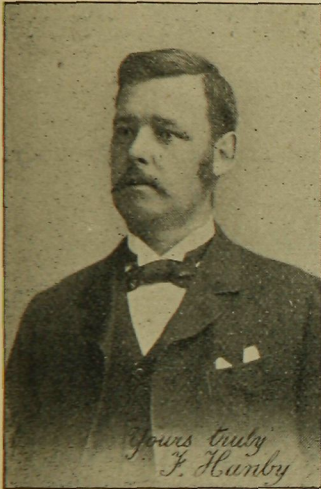


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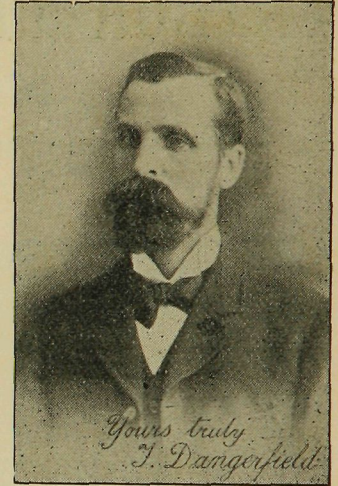
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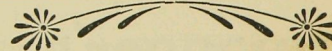


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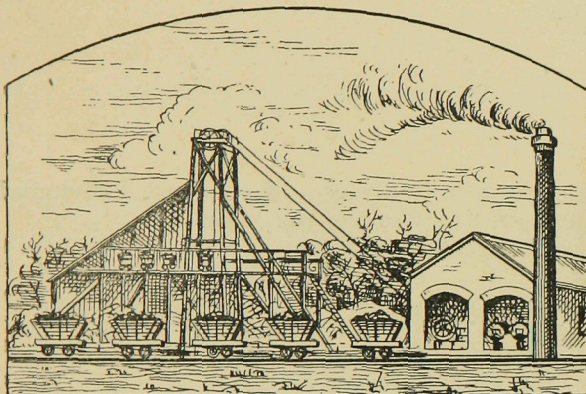
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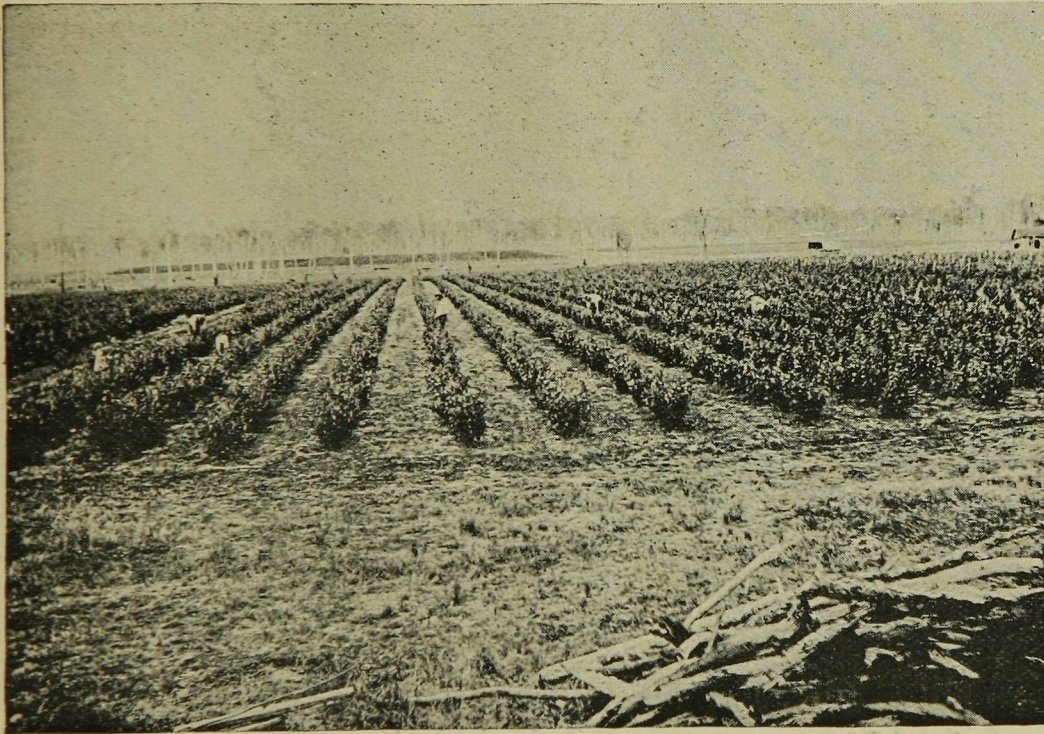


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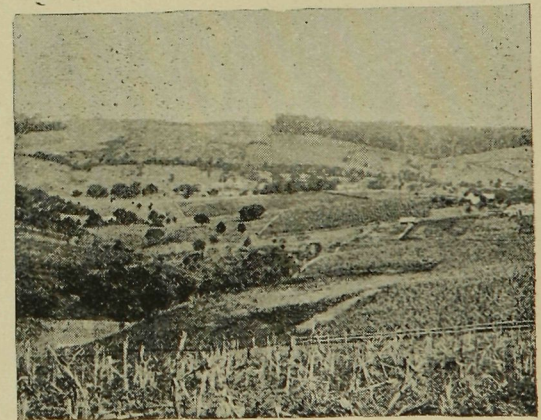
Lambert's vineyard.

was used as a sheep run, but of late years it has been devoted to the depasturing of stock. On the question as to whether it will continue much longer to be used for fattening purposes alone there is room for speculation. A considerable portion of the land is extremely fertile, and there are prospects of its being made available for close settlement, either under the provisions of the Agricultural Lands Purchase Act or in some other way.

One industry which has been engaged in in the Rosewood district for some years, with considerable success, by Mr. G. S. Lambert, is the manufacture of wine. His vineyard is located on the right bank of the Upper Bremer River, and is conducted upon most intelligent principles. Lambert's wines are a well-known brand, for which there is an increasing demand, and the difficulty the proprietor encounters is to keep up the supply. Of necessity he is

continuously increasing the area under grapes and correspondingly expanding the manufacturing premises. The land upon which the vines flourish so splendidly is of a black loam intermixed with lime pebbles. Originally, about 27 years back, a few vines were planted here, but it was not until nine years later that Mr. Lambert came into possession of the property, and he then entered into the business in earnest. There are now nearly 30 acres under vines. The cellars, which cover about 5200 square feet, have a capacity of 30,000 gallons.

The foregoing will give some idea of the importance of the rural district of Rosewood as a farming centre; the successes which have been mentioned may be taken as typical of what is possible of achieve-



An Ashwell farm.

ment by those who take to farming occupations in Southern Queensland, where there is unlimited scope for the enterprising and industrious settler.



# FASSIFERN



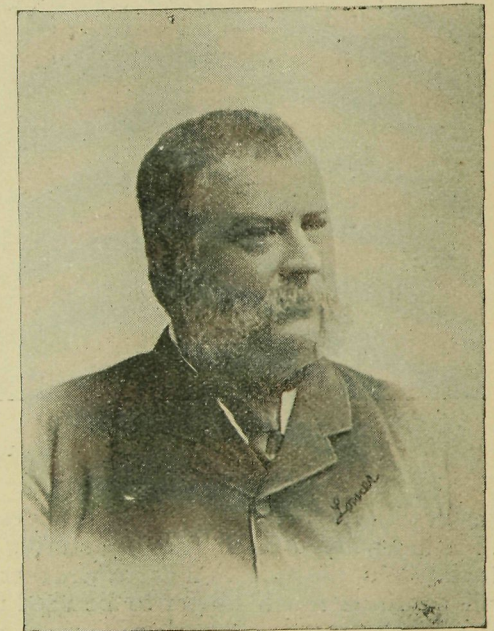
High-street, Boonah.

TO reach the Fassifern district from Ipswich one has to strike out to the south-west, and a very short time suffices to gain the boundary. At this point the traveller has the town a little to the rear, the famous Rosewood district to the right, the coal-mining centre of Bundamba to the left, and the richly-endowed Fassifern district in front, extending away towards the distant blue-topped ranges for upwards of 50 miles. Large tracts of land in favoured parts of the district were secured in the early days for pastoral purposes, and to this day many of those areas have been utilised for depasturing stock. From these fine old-time stations many of the large butchering establishments in the metropolis and in the southern colonies obtain their cattle.

More recently other portions of the district have been opened up by the agriculturist, and the increase of population has been very rapid of late years. There is indisputable evidence on that point. In the year 1889 the local governing body for the district returned the number of ratepayers as 1171, from whom a revenue of £937 14s. was derived. Eight years later (in the year 1897) the number had increased to 1529, whilst the aggregate amount of rates collected had advanced to £1578 17s. 1d.

Some of the farming is conducted on the exceedingly rich river flats bordering on the Warrill Creek and other streams, and the abnormal yields which have been secured from these lands have resulted in placing the owners in a position of independence as the outcome of a compara-

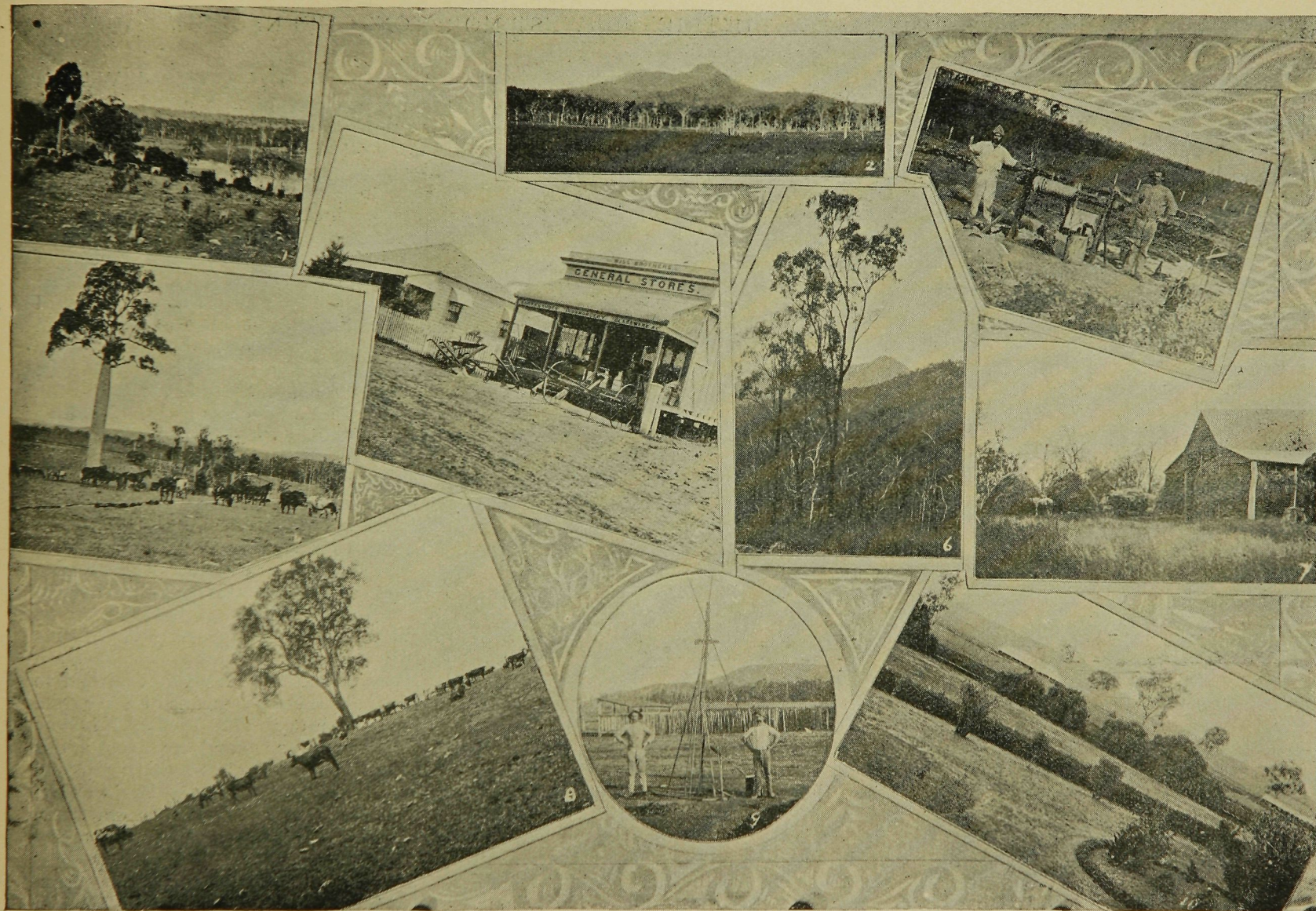
tively few years of labour. As a case in point it will not be amiss to cite the experience of one farmer residing on Wilson's Plains—an expanse of level country composed of black soil of considerable depth, and containing the elements which ensure regular and abundant crops. Fourteen years ago this person who, for some time previously, had been working as a farm labourer in the neighbourhood, conceived the idea that he could do much better by



Hon. George Thorn, M.L.A., Fassifern Electorate.

striking out for himself. Acting upon this impulse, he leased, for a term of five years, at a rental of £100 per annum, an 80-acre





1. Scene at Milbong. 2. View of Mt. French. 3. Well-sinking. 4. Cattle view. 5. A country store. 6. Distant view of Mt. French. 7. Hay in the stack. 8. Cattle scene. 9. Boring for water. 10. Normanby Station house





Mr. Mat. Kerwin's home at Coochin.

farm near to the property on which he had been working. A condition imposed by the lessor was that the lessee must not cultivate more than 40 acres of the land. So well satisfied was the lessee at the expiration of his term that he purchased the block at £15 per acre. He had only a very small percentage of the purchase money to put down at the time, and on the balance he had to pay 8 per cent. interest. To-day that man is free of liability, and has been

in that happy position for many months past. In addition to paying off the debt upon the property he has effected considerable costly improvements to the place, and has possessed himself of a valuable herd of dairy cattle, which are now a source of income to him. All this was accomplished as the result of industrious farming, and is significant as indicating what may be done on the land by systematic and intelligent application.

It is in the region beyond Wilson's Plains that the greater number of the agriculturists are settled. Onwards from Munbilla (a railway station about 20 miles from Ipswich) the country, for some miles, alternates between valleys and hills. The soil, which is of volcanic origin, is a light loam, and is rich beyond conception. Upon it some of the very best products of the district are grown. There are some points of similarity between the Rosewood and Fassifern Scrubs. Both are hilly, and were originally covered by a thick brigalow scrub. In the latter, however, whilst the scrub was much more dense than in the former, the hills have a more gradual slope than those in the Rosewood district. The majority of the residents of the Fassifern Scrub hail from Germany, and a worthy lot of colonists they have proved themselves to be.

Less than a score of years ago some of the first settlers cut their way from Kent's Lagoon (which is about 24 miles south of Ipswich) into the heart of the scrub. One of the most successful farmers in this locality says that when he entered upon his farm, about 18 years since, he had to find his way there by means of a five-mile track cut through the dense brigalow scrub. Yet if you stand upon that man's land to-day, and look around, you can count farm-houses as thickly as 80 or 160 acre holdings will allow. And the same thing applies to many other parts of the district.

In less than another eighteen years, probably, almost the whole of the Fassifern Scrub timber will have disappeared. In its place will be cleared farms, covered with crops or with a rich greensward of

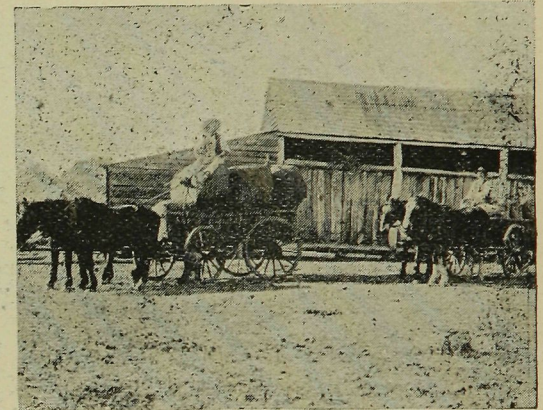




Cattle scene at Blantyre.

couch-grass. Most of the holdings are 160 acres in extent, some of them 80 acres only, and very few of them more than 200 acres. When the scrub has been cleared, couch-grass takes possession of the soil, and makes an excellent pasturage, upon which cattle will live when less durable grasses have been withered away by droughts. Buffalograss has been planted in some places, and rapidly spreads. It makes good herbage, and has the advantage of being able to stand a drought well.

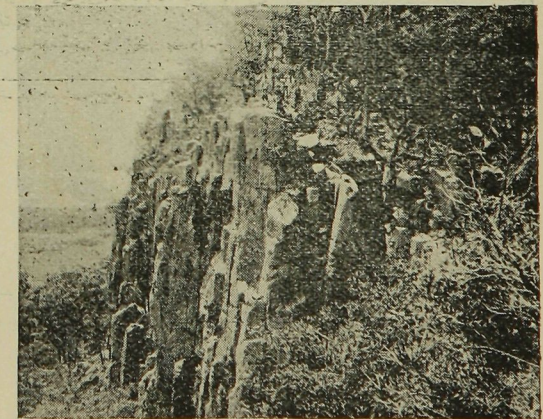
At the time when the first settlers were penetrating the scrub from Kent's Lagoon a man named Engels started a store at a convenient central spot. As settlement expanded his business expanded also. The story goes that after some years he was able to sell out for £400. He had a successor, of course, and now the place where his small store once stood is the centre of



Conveying hay on a German waggon.

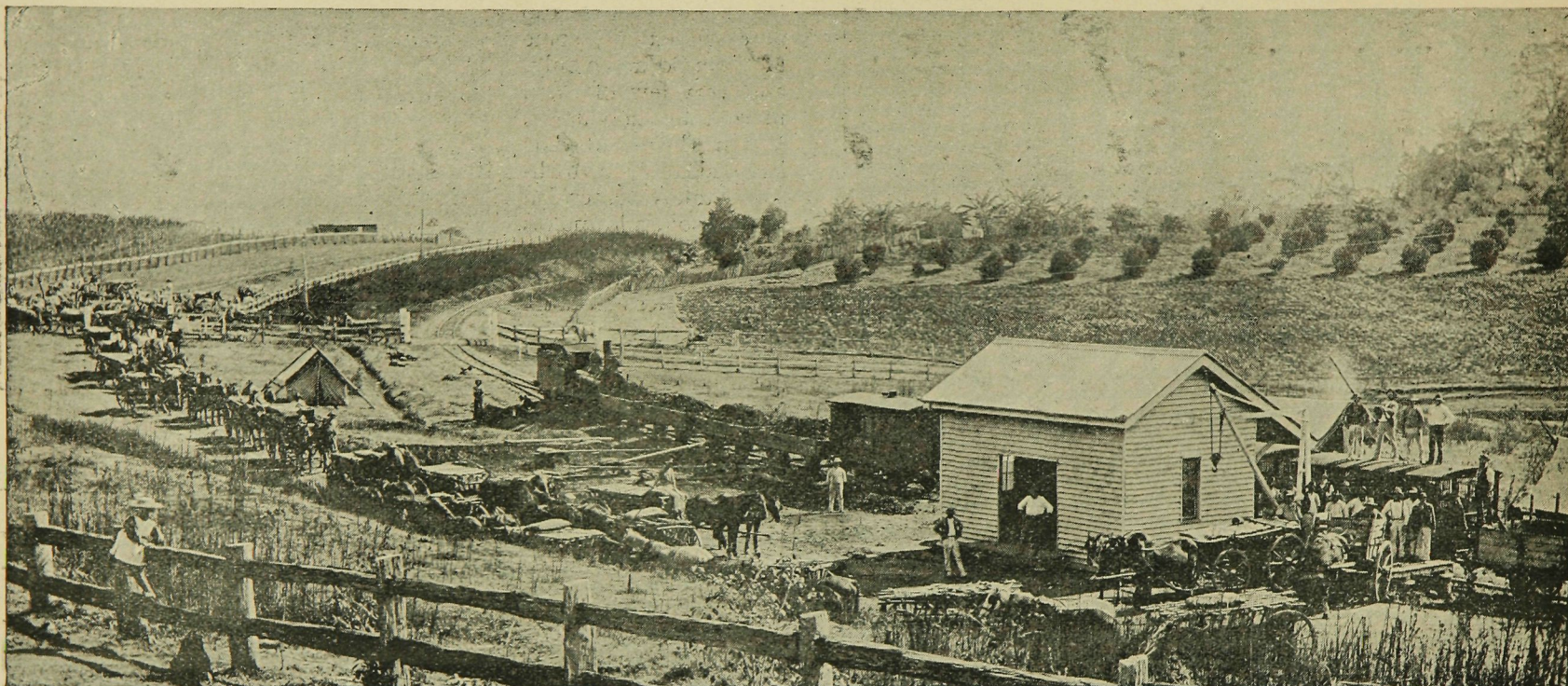
the busy and progressive township of Engelsburg.

To-day the town of Engelsburg is vastly more important than in the days when Mr.



A view of Mt. French.





Pig day at Teviotville.

Engels had his house there. £400 would be scarcely sufficient to buy out any one of the existing stores there; indeed, an offer of many times that amount would, in some cases, be rejected with scorn. As is fitting, having regard to the nationality of the great majority of the inhabitants of the district, the principal business places are kept by natives of Germany, and the future prospects of these storekeepers are certainly bright.

Engelsburg can boast of two commodious and well-furnished hotels, an imposing post and telegraph office, some well-built stores, several churches, and quite a number of comfortable dwellings surrounded by pretty flower-gardens. The environments of the township are decidedly picturesque. The hill-sides are thickly studded with well-tilled farms, and the light colour of the crops is a pleasing contrast to the sombre hue of the still stand-

ing scrub. Surveyed, cleared, and well-made roads of the regulation width, which carry a surprisingly large amount of traffic, have taken the place of the old one-time bridle-tracks.

From many of the central points in this extensive scrub the scene that expands before the onlooker is one of great beauty. The sight is certainly calculated to inspire feelings of delight. The eye glances over hills and valleys of freshness and beauty,





View of Mt. Gravel, near Fassifera.





Ploughing at Trelawny.

where the fields are green with growing and luxuriant crops in various stages of maturity. Patches of brigalow stand on the elevations which the hand of man has not yet touched, and add to the loveliness of the picture. In the early morning

A sweet perfume upon the breeze  
Is borne from ever-vernal trees.

The scene is eminently suggestive of the contentment and prosperity of the residents. In the words of the poet—

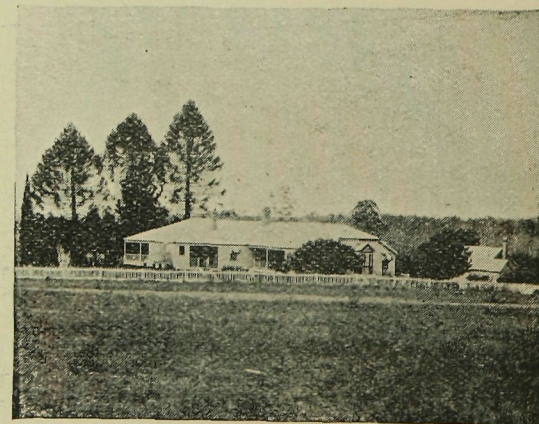
The fruitful fields laugh with abundance.

It would do the townsman good to pass through this country in the first hours of the morning. It would be a contrast to the dusty streets and monotonous houses. It would place him in the midst of Nature's most pleasing associations. (C. H. L.)

It is in the morning that the scene is most enjoyable. "The beautiful feet of the morning make haste upon the mountains," and everything bursts into

life and enjoyment of it. The small birds in the scrub undergrowth give forth a merry note. By-and-bye the horses are led out upon the farm, and the hard work of the day begins. The ploughman possibly does not "enthuse" so much about the surroundings; he would rather be away, no doubt, to fling a gay leg in the towns. As a rule, however, the residents of Fassifern Scrub are proud of the rich country they inhabit, and are not insensible to the many charms which it possesses.

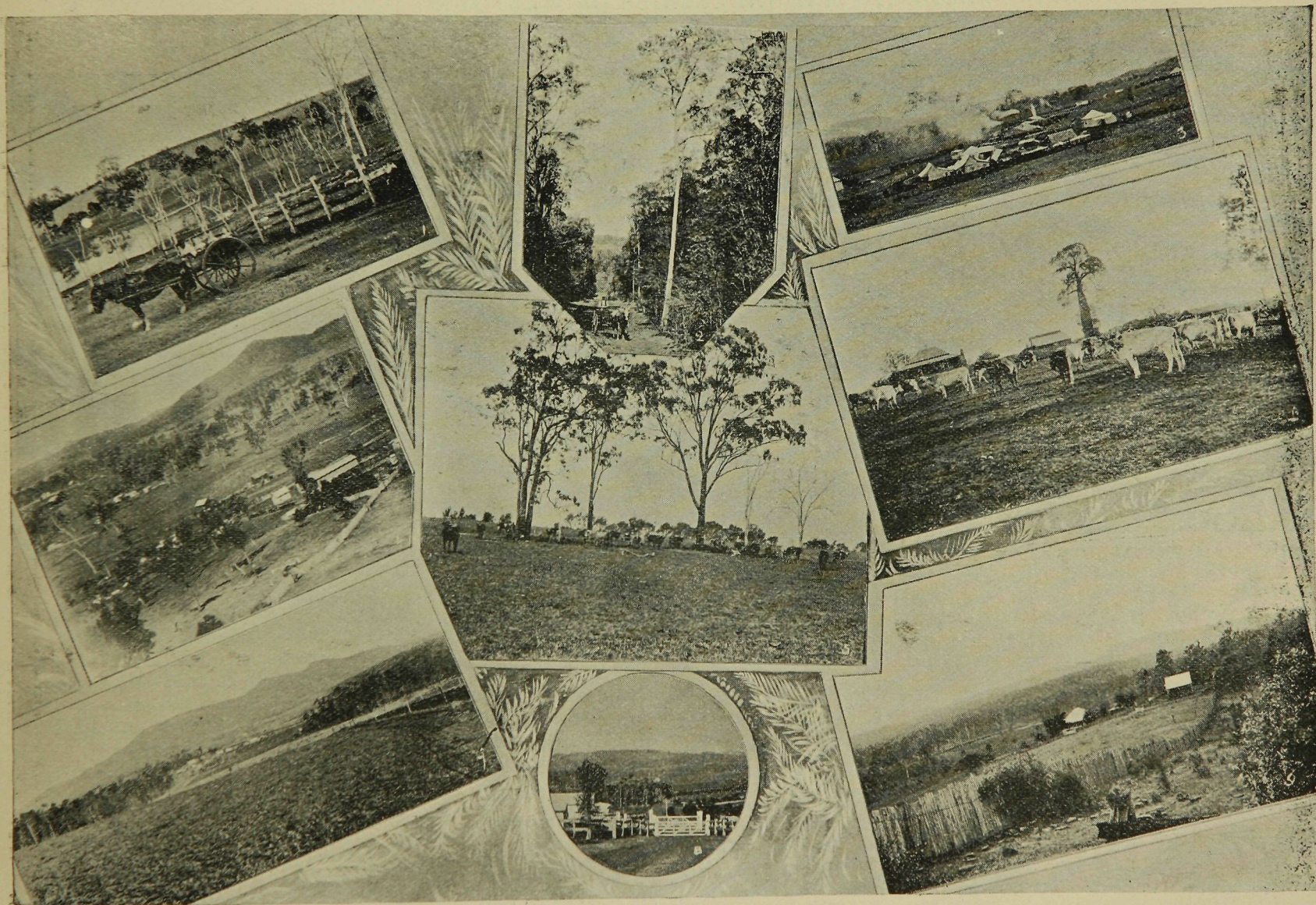
The thriving township of Boonah, located about thirty-seven miles from Ipswich, on the Fassifern branch line of railway, and within a mile of its terminus, is a rapidly-expanding centre of population. Its growth, during the past few years, has been very marked. Not many years since



Fassifern Station house.

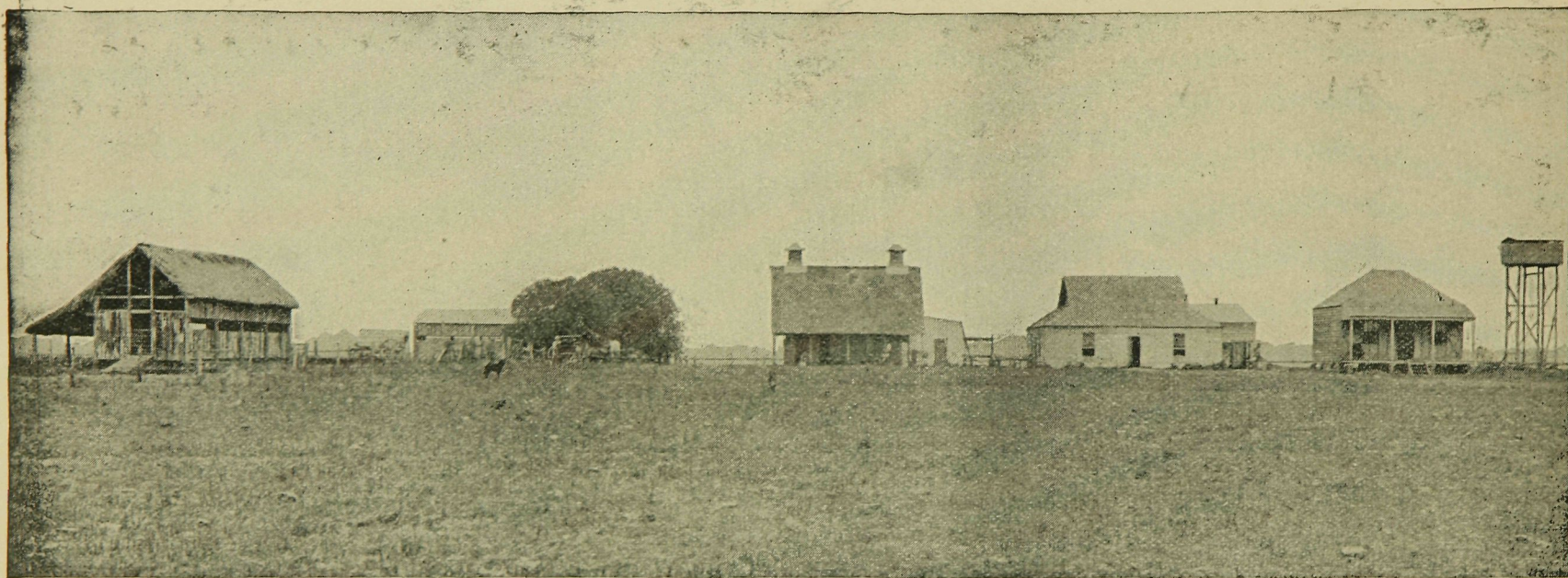
the Government School Inspector reported upon Boonah as a suitable site for the establishment of a small central pro-





1. Conveying milk to creamery. 2. A scrub road. 3. View of Dugandan sawmills. 4. View of Dugandan railway station. 5. Cattle scene.  
6. Dairy farm. 7. Scene near Engelsburg. 8. A view near Roadvale. 9. Mr. R. W. Le Grand's residence, Milbong.





Trelawny cheese factory.

visional school. Now there is a fine State School there, the head-master of which has a large staff of assistants; and, in addition to this, a great number of schools—several of them similar in size to the Boonah seminary—have been established in the surrounding districts. The main street in Boonah, which is pretty extensive for a rural village, presents a solid front of shops and business places on both sides of it. They are quite an imposing lot of buildings. These facts are indicative of the rapid growth of the district. If further proof of this were necessary it would be forthcoming in making a tour of the out-

skirts of the town. On all sides signs of prosperity and contentment may be observed. The buildings of slabs, with shingle roofs, which formed the original dwellings of the pioneer settlers, are now, for the most part, used as store-rooms, and are largely hidden from view by the commodious, substantial, and comfortable houses of modern architecture which now form the homes of the successful farmers. Nor are the settlers averse to admitting their success, but they do not fail to impress upon their interrogators the fact that their achievements have entailed continuous, and at times laborious, work. It

must be acknowledged that there is little time for idleness on the farms. From dawn till dusk there is something to do; but, nevertheless, the occupation of the agriculturist is a healthy one, and his life one of comparative independence.

Maize is the principal crop in the Fassifern Scrub district, although fodder, roots, and cereals are grown in fairly large quantities. The introduction of the central factory system in dairying, and the utilisation of highly-improved, scientifically-worked mechanical appliances, has, here as elsewhere, given a great impetus to dairying. At every central locality in the





Trelawny cattle.

district creameries have been established, some on a co-operative basis, and others as branches of one or other of the big butter-manufacturing firms in Ipswich and the metropolis. This has proved most beneficial to the farmers, who are gradually stocking their holdings with profitable milking herds, preference being given to the Jersey and Ayrshire strains. The stimulus which has been given to pig-raising in this, as well as in other districts

in West Moreton, as a consequence of the expansion of the bacon-curing industry in the colony, has led to some astonishing results. Ten years back the number of pigs killed in the colony for curing did not exceed 350 per annum, whilst for the year 1897 statistics show that 76,720 were killed, and a very large percentage of them were bred and fattened in West Moreton. The Fassifern district contributed a goodly quota.

The pioneers of what may be termed intense dairying in this district, and indeed, for that matter, in the colony, are the proprietors of the Trelawny Estate, situated on Wilson's Plains, in the neighbourhood of Harrisville. From this quarter there is now a large output of cheese; the quantity for the year 1897, according to the Registrar-General's report, being 633,578lb, or nearly a third of the cheese production of Queensland, which for that year was 2,291,416lb.

Trelawny, the Alpha of dairy factories in Queensland, is situated on the Fassifern Railway line, about 18 miles from Ipswich. It comprises 1200 acres of rich alluvial land, and is a portion of the estate of the late Mr. E. A. Bullmore, of Ipswich, who was one of Queensland's veteran pioneers, and who will long be remembered in West Moreton, and indeed in Queensland, for his progressive ideas and many sterling qualities. The Trelawny homestead is located on an elevated part of the plain, which extends some miles to the south-west. The view from it is enchanting. To the left is a large lagoon, which is fringed with water-lilies and abounds with wild fowl. On the right and in the front lie the cultivated paddocks—some 400 acres in extent—and beyond is the main dividing range, standing out in bold relief. In the eighties the cultivation was a waving sea of lucerne, but later on Mr. Bullmore and his manager, Mr. C. Sealy, decided to establish dairying on the factory system, so that a change was effected on the estate. Mr. Sealy was commissioned to visit the dairying centres of the southern colonies and gain what information was there available. The outcome was that, upon



his return, the necessary buildings were erected and appliances provided for the manufacture of first-class cheese, and the production of that article was forthwith entered upon. On the decease of Mr. Bullmore, Mr. B. Malcolm, of the famous Bodalla Estate, in New South Wales, joined Mr. C. Sealy in partnership, and the firm of Sealy and Malcolm became the lessees of Trelawny, and followed up the industry so well initiated by the late Mr. Bullmore.

In starting the dairy herd, grade short-horn cows were selected and purchased from farmers in the district. These were mated with the best strains of Ayrshire bulls imported from the southern colonies, and the cross proved most satisfactory. This cross, again, was mated with pure Jersey and shorthorn sires, with the result that the Trelawny dairy herd is reputed to be one of the best milk-producing herds in Queensland. The milking-yards and sheds at Trelawny, although erected some nine years, have been improved from time to time, and are quite up to date. They consist of two large receiving-yards, paved throughout with wood blocks placed on end. They open into two large milking-sheds containing 36 bails. These buildings are covered with a thatch roofing, and are paved with wood blocks. A passage is provided along the centre of each shed, the bails being on either side. Each bail is opened or closed, as necessity requires, by a simple arrangement worked from the passage, whence a cord is run through small pulleys and connected with the bail, the contrivance being so effective that sixteen cows may be bailed or released in about three minutes. After being milked

the cows pass out through a gate into the pasture-paddock. At a short distance from the milking-sheds is a milk-house, from which a tram-line is laid to the cheese-factory, a distance of about 150 yards. The factory is a wooden building, with a concrete floor, and the cheese-making plant is a very complete one, consisting of an 8 h.p. engine, with 14-horse boiler-power, large receiving-vats, draining-tables, curd-mills, Babcock milk-tester, English and American cheese-presses and moulds, a large Pasteuriser, and other requisite fittings. Hot and cold water and steam taps are fitted on to all parts of the factory. The cold water is obtained from a conveniently-situated well. By means of a steam pump the water is first forced into a large tank at an elevation of 30ft. from the ground, so that there is sufficient pressure to distribute the water all over the premises. One of the most important appliances in use is the refrigerator, which is most effective, during the hot summer months, in keeping a uniform temperature in the cheese maturing-room, which is built of brick, with 12in. of insulation on the inside, and covered externally with a very thick thatch roof. This room is capable of storing about 30 tons of cheese.

Pig-raising has attention at Trelawny, and neighbouring farmers are supplied with a large number of store pigs annually. In the month of April of this year there were about 100 breeding sows and 500 store pigs on the estate.

Messrs. Sealy and Malcolm usually employ from 15 to 20 hands at farm and dairy work, and since the factory system of dairying was established at Trelawny dairying has been spreading rapidly through-

out the district. Creameries, both private and co-operative, are being planted in all parts of the district, and the cart-loads of cream which are daily delivered at the many railway stations along the Fassifern line bear testimony to the progress that has been made. Mr. Charles Sealy and Mr. Bruce Malcolm are both Australian natives, and may justly be numbered among the most enterprising of the pioneer dairymen of the colony.

At Dugandan—the terminus of the Fassifern branch line of railway, and which is only about a mile from Boonah—timber-getting and saw-milling are the chief industries. The operations at the mills are confined mostly to the cutting of pine timber. At one time considerable quantities of this timber were obtainable from the Fassifern Scrub, on land that is now under the plough. Those days have gone. The timber-getter has now to go further afield. The scene of his labours is away in the wild and romantic mountainous regions. Steep hills, rugged rocks, and yawning chasms do not deter him from getting what he wants. In such places the pines grow to greatest perfection, towering high above almost all the other trees. There he fells them, denudes them of their limbs and bark, and conveys them on bullock-waggons to the mills, where he receives payment at so much per 100ft. superficial measurement. The occupation is a fairly remunerative one, as may be gathered when it is stated that the teamsters who draw to Dugandan earn an average of £15. per team per month. The pine timber cut at the local mills finds a ready sale in Ipswich, Brisbane, and other towns of the colony.





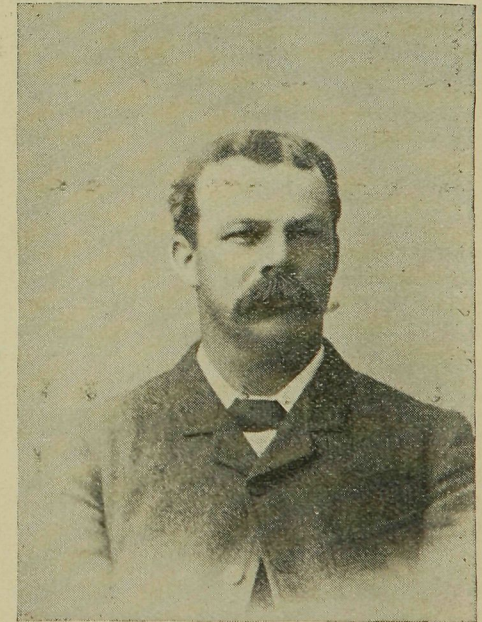
"Brynhyfryd": Mr. Lewis Thomas's residence, Blackstone.

OF the six electorates comprised in the West Moreton district Bundamba lies farthest to the eastward. It is the principal coal-mining centre in the colony. By many people living at a distance—and, indeed, by some who reside in the vicinity of Bundamba, but who are unacquainted with the facts—the district is thought to be restricted to the support of a mining population. In reality such is not the case. Several other important industries are established within its boundaries, and they are of such a character as to give the district a wide-spread reputation. Mining was one of the first industries entered upon in the electorate, and Mr. Lewis Thomas, now one of the wealthiest men in the colony (and, to his credit be it said, one of the most liberal contributors to every worthy object, including educational institutions), may be said to be the pioneer of Queensland coal-mining. It is true that prior to that gentleman's advent some coal-mining was done—notably by Mr. James Gulland, Messrs. Hooper and Robinson, and others—but not on nearly

so extensive a scale as that on which the industry is now conducted.

Since Mr. Thomas first engaged in mining in the district, about a quarter of a century back, the industry has made strides commensurate with the growth of the colony and the expansion of other industries. Twenty-five years ago the coal deposits were being tapped at only a comparatively few places. Colliers then set to work on some of the outcrops appearing on the sides of the steepest hills. Tunnels were soon made, and the mineral was wheeled out by means of barrows. As the tunnels ran almost horizontally, no mechanical aid was required in bringing the small waggons from the underways. Today mining is conducted under very different conditions. Most of the collieries are now worked from shafts attaining considerable depths. They are well equipped with modern appliances for facilitating the getting of the coal and the transferring of it to the market. The larger pits are connected with the main trunk line of railway by branch lines. Some of the

latter were constructed by the colliery proprietors themselves. The coal-bearing district is divided by the Bremer River, which flows through it for some considerable distance. Extensive coal deposits are to be found on both sides of the stream. The coal procured from the land on the south side of the river is conveyed from the mines to the metropolis and to other places by rail; but for much of the mineral obtained from the pits on



Mr. J. C. Cribb, M.L.A., Bundamba Electorate.

the northern side of the stream the latter serves as a means of transit to market. Tram-lines run from the mouths of the





Part of the village of Blackstone.

pits to large receptacles built on the bank of the river, and arranged in such a way that their contents may be easily emptied into the river barges. Having received the requisite load, the barges are attached to a small steam craft, and towed by the latter to the metropolis.

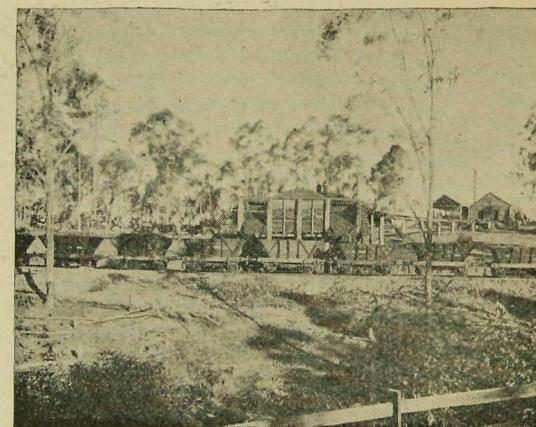
Bundamba, Dinmore, and Blackstone are the three mining townships of the south-side district. The last-named is a business centre of importance, and a very large proportion of the mining residents are of Welsh extraction. Over-looking the village is the palatial residence of Mr. Lewis Thomas, which has been named Brynhyfryd. This fine building has a most imposing appearance, and its erection cost about £8000. It is built on the summit of a steep hill, and commands a splendid view of the surrounding country for many miles. In close proximity is the Aberdare Colliery, which Mr. Thomas worked with

great success for many years. A few years back, however, he made an offer to his then employees, who numbered about 200, to take over the property from him and work it on co-operative principles. The offer was accepted, and since that date the mines have been worked by the Aberdare Co-operative Colliery Company, Limited. The company have one of the most extensive business connections of the district, and pay upwards of £7000 annually to the Railway Department for freight on the coal which is hauled over the State railway. The wages-sheet of the company aggregates about £18,000 a year, whilst they pay fully £3500 annually as royalty. Other expenses incidental to the carrying on of the company's business mount up to



Scene on the Brisbane River, near Goodna.

a big sum; and, altogether, the company are the means of circulating about £34,000 annually. This effort at co-operation for

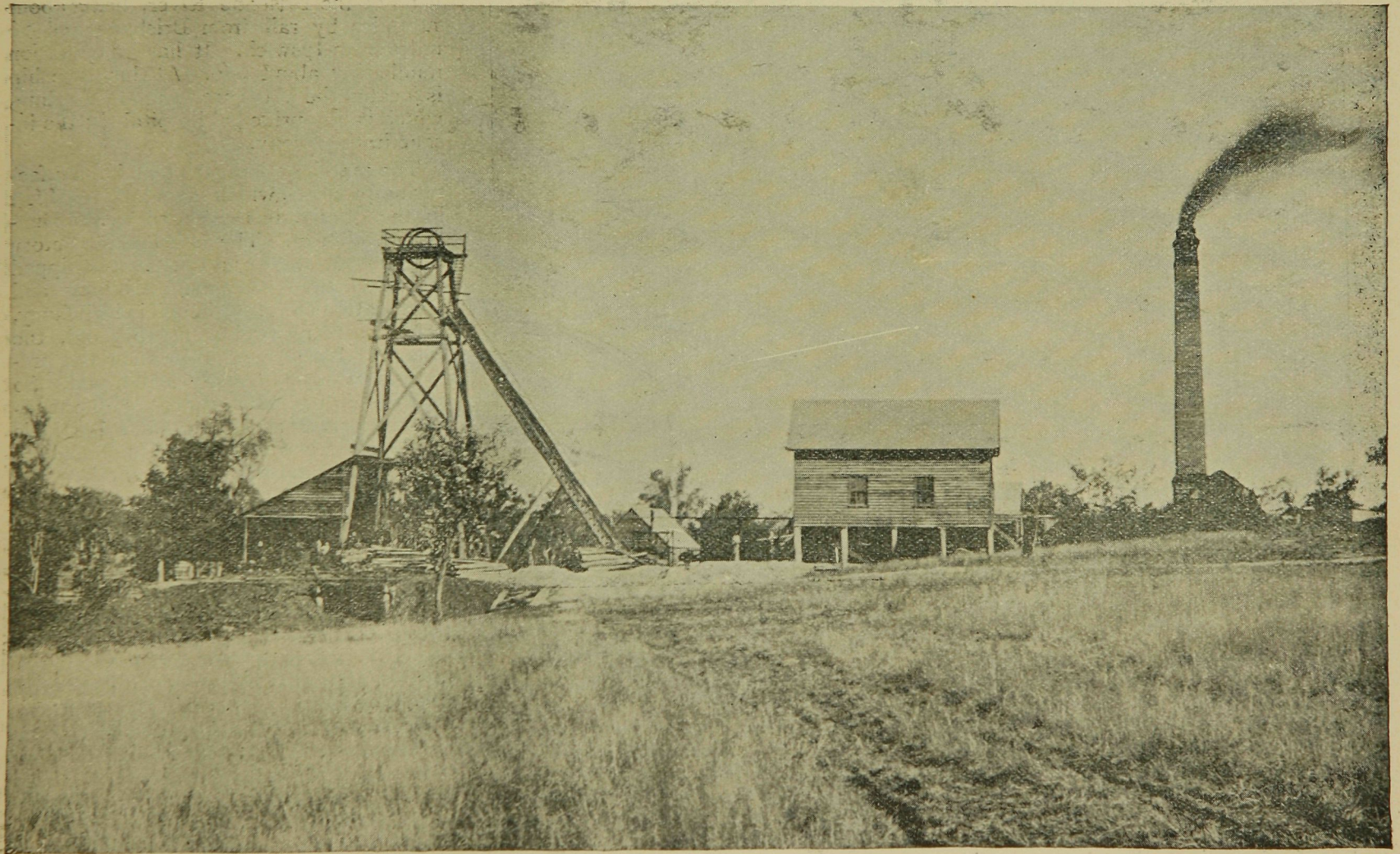


Messrs. Stafford Bros.' Rothwell Haigh Colliery, Tivoli.

industrial purposes has been watched with keen interest throughout Australia.

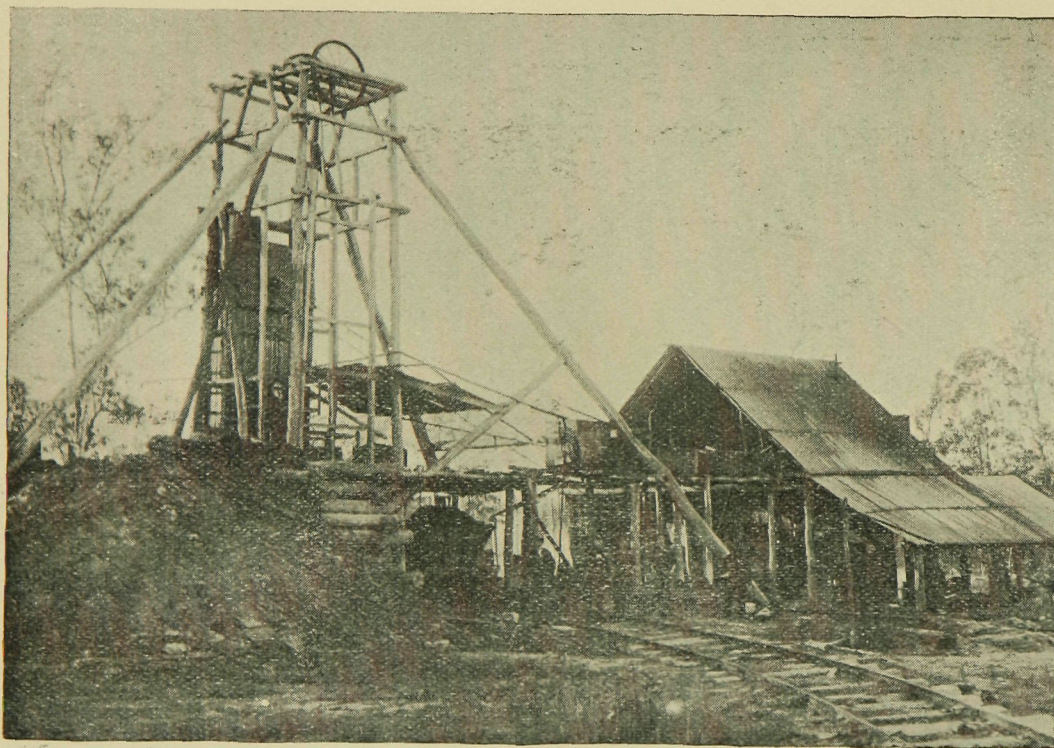
Messrs. Stafford Bros., who are the owners of the Whitwood, Haighmoor, and Rothwell Haigh Collieries—all extensive properties—also have large business connections, and their annual distribution of money in wages, &c., reaches many thousands of pounds. Two other pretty large colliery companies are the New Swanbank Colliery Company and the Watertown Colliery. The first-named are the proprietors of the Dinmore and the Swanbank mines, at each of which about 100 men are employed. Although these are comparatively newly-established collieries, they have made considerable progress, and the average monthly output of coal from each is now pretty extensive. The Watertown Colliery is situated on the north side of the river. A large number of colliers





Aberdare Co-operative Colliery Company's Coolgardie Mine.





New Chum Colliery, Dinmore.

are employed there, and regular consignments of coal are dispatched to Brisbane from the mine by punts. In close proximity to the latter colliery is the property of Mr. John Wright—another of the pioneers of the industry—where mining operations are being conducted at two pits, from which fuel is forwarded in considerable quantities to the pumping station of the Brisbane waterworks, and to the works of several of the largest gas com-

panies in the colony. There are various other collieries which give employment to a considerable number of miners, and the annual sales of coal from these realise very big sums. It will be understood, then, that mining in this portion of the West Moreton district is a very important industry, and one which furnishes a means of livelihood to hundreds of families.

Goodna is located near the eastern boundary of the electorate. It is a small

township, situated on the right bank of a bend of the Brisbane River, being about 14 miles by rail from Brisbane and 10 miles from Ipswich. It has a population numbering about 600. At this township is located the Woogaroo Lunatic Asylum, which is the principal hospital for the insane in the colony.

The march of industrial and manufacturing progress, which is making itself felt in the colony, has extended to the Bundamba district. The latest manufactory established there is the well-equipped works of the Queensland Chilling and Extract Company. Although in its infancy, being scarcely twelve months old, the company has a record of which the promoters of it may justly feel proud. So satisfied is the management with the results thus far achieved that some little time back it was determined to double the capacity of the establishment, and, at the time of writing, the work of extending the building was under way. The company were fortunate in the choice of a site for their works. The latter are built on the bank of the Brisbane River, at a point which is within a few hours' steam from the metropolis. The Redbank railway station is not more than 200 or 300 yards distant, and still another advantage is the fact that fuel is to be had almost at the very door of the place. This latter is a big consideration, the expenditure for coal being small when compared with the outlay for that product by companies whose works are at some distance from the coal-mining centres.

Although comparatively small the works are very complete, being furnished with every modern requisite which will ensure



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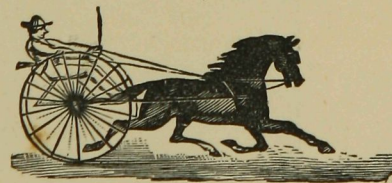
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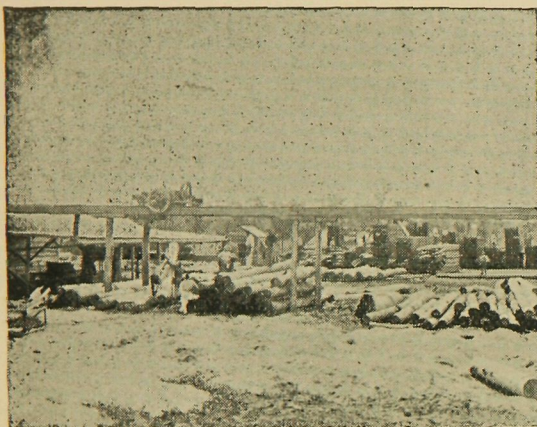
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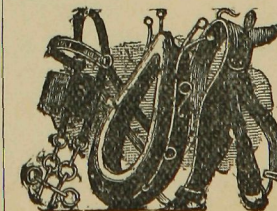
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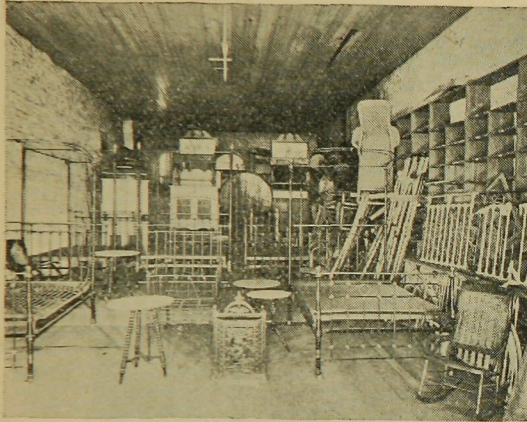
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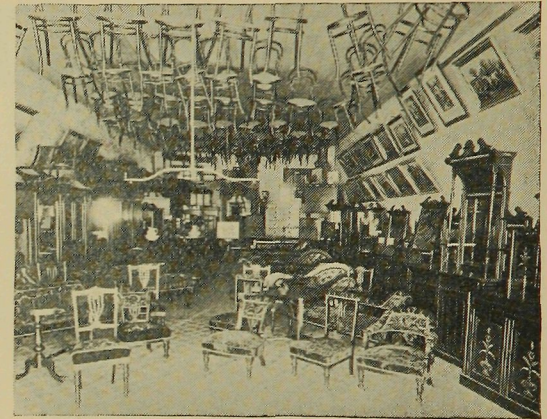
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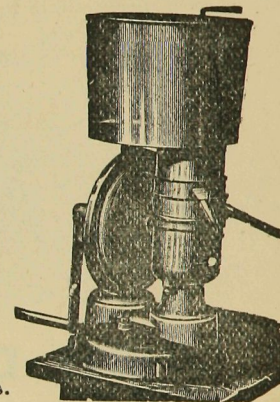
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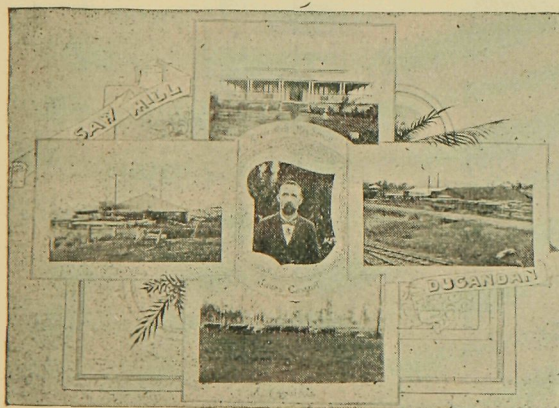
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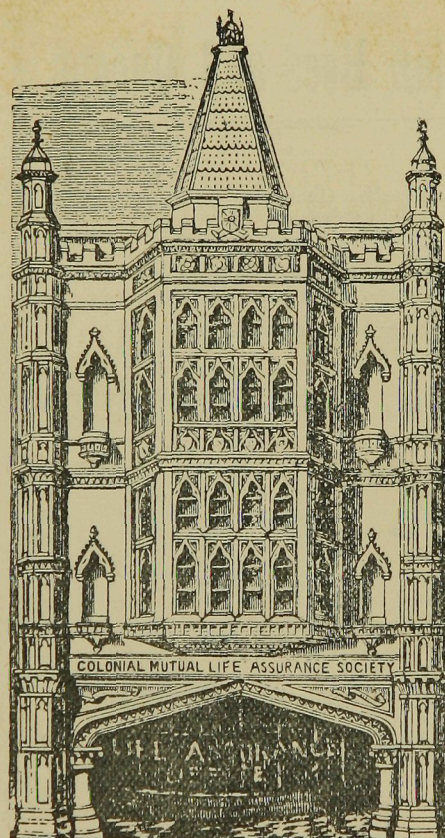
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Untested Italian Queens	5s.	20s.
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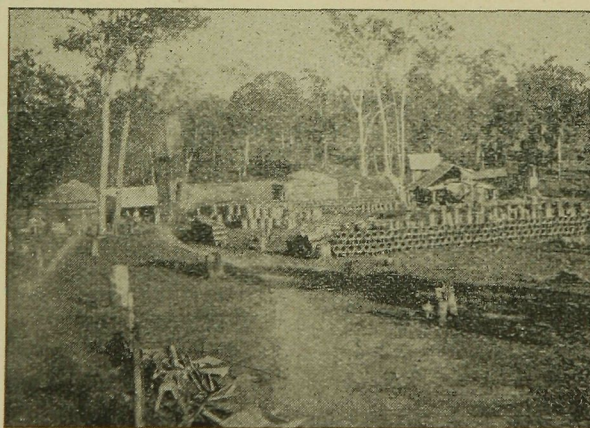


the treatment of the carcasses at a minimum cost. Already the establishment gives employment to a considerable number of hands, and as it expands—which it is expected to do rapidly—the number of employees will, of course, be increased. Heretofore operations have been restricted to the chilling of carcasses, and the preparation of extract and fertilising substances. It is the intention, however, to launch out into the manufacture of preserved meat as soon as the work of extending the premises is completed, and this should prove a valuable adjunct to the extract business. The extract, which is clean and well-flavoured, is put up in 56lb. tins, and exported to the old country, as, indeed, are all the products of the works. A sum of £15,000 has been invested in the works, and 90 bullocks can be put through daily for canning and extract, while an additional 70 beasts may be slaughtered daily for chilling purposes.

There are also other manufactories in the district equipped with machinery that would permit of a much larger output from them did a wider demand exist for the articles which they manufacture. This applies in particular to the two large brickfields, one of which is located at Redbank, eight miles from Ipswich, and the other at Bundamba, about four miles from the town. Both are fitted with the latest improved brick-making machinery, capable of turning out many thousands of bricks daily. There is at present a very good market for the bricks, but, with the development of the colony's immense natural resources, the consequent expansion of industries, and the increase of population, it

is anticipated that a much larger quantity of bricks will be manufactured at each of these works. The necessary appliances are there for meeting a greatly increased demand, should those expectations be realised.

At Messrs. Gilson and Rumble's Dinmore Pottery a large quantity of C.C., Majolica, Rockingham, Cane, and Brown Stone earthenware is manufactured, and the firm experience no difficulty in dis-



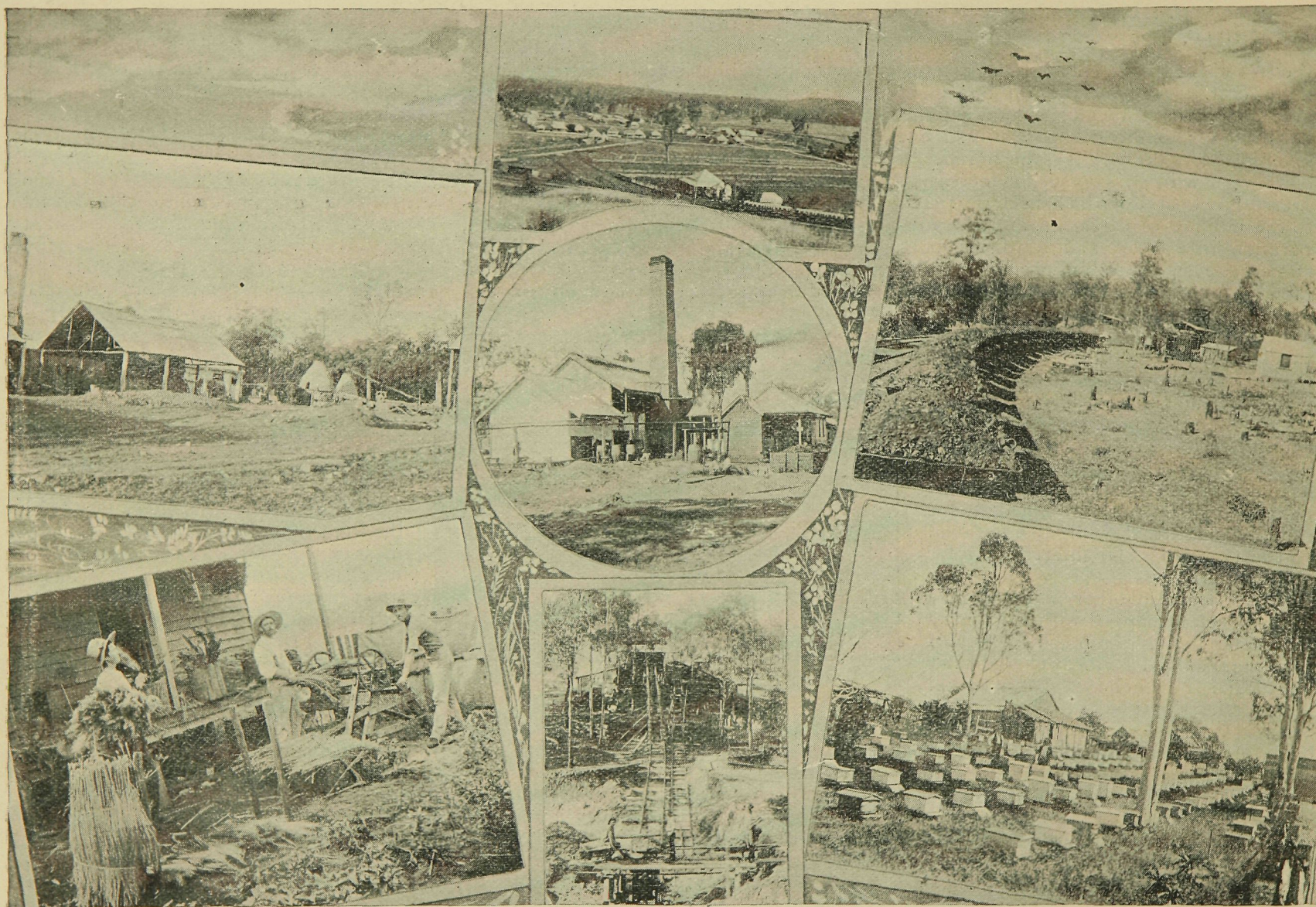
Reliance Pottery, Dinmore.

posing of their wares, which have the reputation of being equal to the best imported goods of the same class. This is not to be wondered at, seeing that both Mr. Gilson and Mr. Rumble are thoroughly competent workmen, whilst they have an abundance of splendid clay at their disposal, and have every facility for working it up into the numerous useful and ornamental articles which they manufacture. On the opposite side of the railway-line is

Messrs. Bognuda and Hudson's Reliance Pottery. Their operations are mostly restricted to the manufacture of drain-pipes of every description, a department of work in which they excel.

Apiculture is an industry that has given considerable prominence to the district throughout Australasia and in more distant lands. It is true that it is represented by only one apiary of any pretensions; but its size, completeness, and extensive business connections, and the reputation of its owner as an expert in bee-culture, have won for it a foremost place amongst bee-keepers in Australasia. The apiary is named the Mel Bonum, and the enterprising owner of it is Mr. H. L. Jones, who is certainly deserving of the success which he has attained. As a practical writer on all apiarian subjects, Mr. Jones stands in the front ranks, and, strangely enough, most of the American bee journals, to which he is a frequent contributor, insist upon referring to him as a veteran, but, as a matter of fact, although he has been connected with the business for many years, he is now only 33 years of age. He commenced his career in the apicultural business when a mere lad, and had scarcely more than entered his "teens" when he came into possession of his first hive of bees. For him they possessed a very strong fascination. He set himself to work to gain all the information possible respecting the "busy bee," and thenceforward a great portion of his time has been spent in studying, by observation and reading, the habits of this useful little insect. The knowledge thus gained has been put to practical use. Mr. Jones





1. The Dinmore Pottery. 2. Part of Bundamba. 3. Messrs. Stafford Bros.' Whitwood Colliery, Dinmore. 4. Redbank Meatworks. 5. Heckling millet.  
6. Dinmore Brickworks. 7. Mr. H. L. Jones's Mel Bonum Apiary, Goodna.



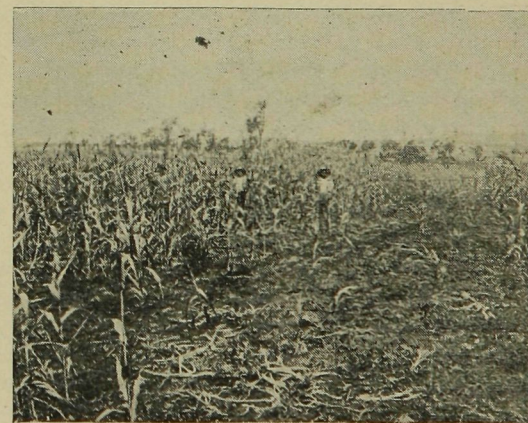


Mr. H. L. Jones's Mel Bonum Apiary, Goodna.

gradually increased the number of his colonies of bees, and, long ago, demonstrated that a living could be made at bee-farming, and a very good living, too. To-day he has upwards of 300 hives of bees, and they bring him in a surprisingly large annual monetary return. The apiary has a favourable situation. On all sides of it are extensive areas of the lofty eucalyptus-tree, and it is largely from the bloom of these native trees that the

bees gather their honey. Mr. Jones does not rely solely upon the product of the bees for his income. He has gone in extensively for queen-raising, and his annual sale of queens (which he dispatches to all parts of Australasia, America, the Straits Settlements, and other distant parts) runs into very big figures. He has also an extensive factory, replete with modern machinery, where he engages largely in the manufacture of aparian requisites. Un-

doubtedly the works are the most complete of their kind in the colony, and comprise a 16-horse power steam-engine, with 20-horse power boiler. The plant also includes planing-machines, dovetailing machinery, large and small saw-benches, boring machinery, &c., all specially adapted for the manufacture of the particular class of goods which are made on the premises. The tinsmith's outfit, too, for the manufacture of honey receptacles and bee-keepers' tinware of all kinds is a most complete one. In short, it may be said that the Mel Bonum is one of the leading apiaries in the colonies, and that Mr. Jones has demonstrated what it is possible to do in a country having such interesting and varied resources as Queensland.



Millet farm at Redbank Plains.

The Bundamba district is also to the fore as an agricultural centre. The cultivation areas lie along the banks of the





Farm scene.

Brisbane River, in close proximity to the junction of the Bremer River with that stream, and at a place known as Redbank Plains, a slightly undulating stretch of country about eight miles due east from Ipswich. The soil on "The Plains" is a rich black loam, and prolific crops have been grown there. It was in this locality that a number of the pioneer farmers of the colony settled, and there they now have comfortable dwellings erected on valuable areas of freehold land. For many years maize was the staple crop in this district, whilst fodder and potatoes were also produced in fairly large quantities. Latterly, however, the impetus given to dairying as a result of the establishment of the factory system of working has ex-

tended to this locality, and the production of cream for transmission to one or other of the large butter manufactories is now largely engaged in, with very satisfactory results to the vendors of the product. There are a few central creameries conveniently situated, whilst a number of the residents have their own separators.

The industrial progress which is being made in the colony has beneficially affected this district in another direction. The



Millet in the stack.

establishment of works in Brisbane for the manufacture of millet brooms has given rise to a strong demand for millet, which,



Cattle scene.

it has been demonstrated by Mr. A. W. T. Poore and others, can be successfully and profitably grown at Redbank Plains. The best time for planting the millet is in the early spring—say about the beginning of September. About three months later it will be found to be matured and ready for cutting. The yield averages from 6cwt. to 8cwt. per acre. Last season Mr. Poore had 16 acres under millet, and he obtained an average yield of 7cwt. per acre. It is worth £20 per ton of 2000lbs. After being cut in November or December the stalks of the millet sprout again, and in the month of March following a second cutting is obtainable. The seed of the millet is also a source of revenue to the growers, as it commands a ready sale in Brisbane at 2d. per lb.



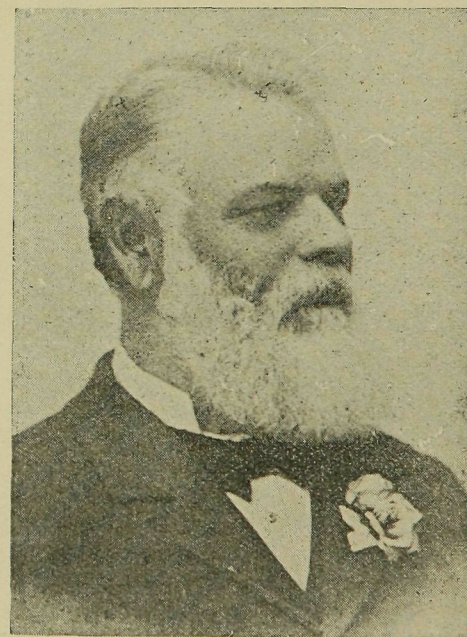


View of Ipswich, looking west.

THE Ipswich electorate comprises the town of Ipswich and its picturesque suburbs. Ipswich proper, which may be styled the capital of West Moreton, is not only the commercial centre of a prosperous mining, agricultural, and pastoral district, but it also has the distinction of being one of the principal manufacturing and industrial towns in Queensland. It is situated on the Bremer, a tributary of the Brisbane River, and is 24 miles from the metropolis by rail and 50 miles by water. Its location is towards the eastern boundary of the richly-endowed district of West Moreton, which extends approximately some 60 or 70 miles in a northerly direction, 50 miles south and 70 miles west. The situation is an advantageous

one as a convenient trading depôt, and also from the fact that there is water as well as railway communication with Brisbane—Ipswich being the head of navigation. In the early days the river traffic between the two towns was conducted on rather a large scale. At the present time cargo boats ply regularly between the two ports, although most of the consignments both to and from Ipswich are now dispatched by rail. The first steamer to run from Brisbane to Ipswich was the *Experiment*, under Captain Aylmer Campbell, the vessel being owned by Mr. James Canning Pearce. The experimental trip was made on the 17th of June, 1846—some 53 years ago. The town was incorporated on the 3rd of March, 1860, since which

time it has made great progress. Considering the comparatively few years which separate us from the early days of settlement, the advancement which has been made is really astonishing—the rapid evolution from the primal germ of free settlement established in 1842 by Sir George Gipps, then Governor of New South Wales, to the splendid development of to-day.

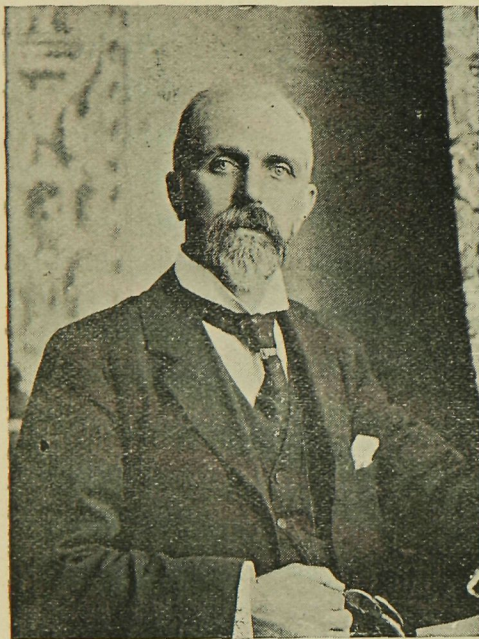


Mr. A. J. Stephenson, M.L.A., Ipswich Electorate.

The first line of railway constructed in the colony had Ipswich as its starting-point. The first sod of the railway was turned on the 25th of February, 1864, and



on the 31st of July, 1865, the line—which extended to Grandchester, a distance of 20 miles—was opened. Since that date nearly

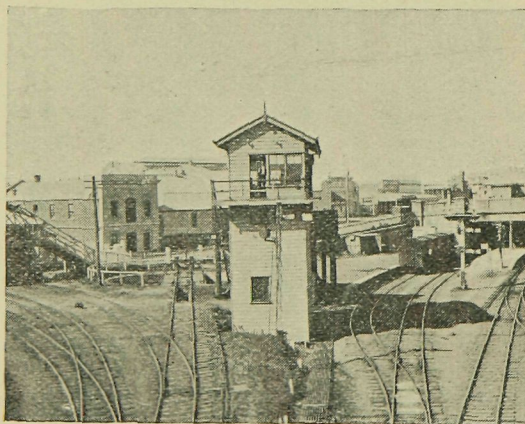


Mr. T. B. Cribb, M.L.A., Ipswich Electorate.

3000 miles of railway have been constructed in the colony. The original length of line between Ipswich and Brisbane now forms a part of the great Australian seaboard railway, extending from Adelaide, in South Australia, to Gladstone, in Queensland. Two branch lines run out from Ipswich, both of which pass through rich agricultural and pastoral country. One of these has a southerly course for nearly 40 miles, and terminates at Dugandan, in the Fassi-

fern district; whilst the other extends almost due north, traversing the Stanley electorate for a little over 40 miles, and terminating, for the present, at Esk. The principal railway workshops in the colony are located in Ipswich, being situated on the north side of the river. Here close upon 300 men are employed. The original shops were constructed of corrugated galvanised iron, but those of more recent erection are built of brickwork, and the aggregate cost of their construction represents many thousands of pounds. At the time of writing tenders are under the consideration of the railway authorities for the erection of additional workshops which are estimated to cost about £44,000.

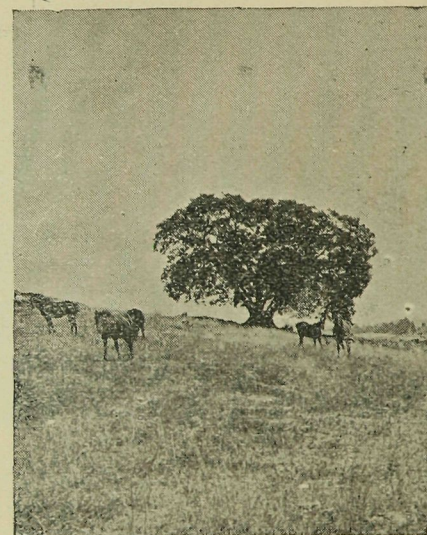
The town is lighted by gas, and the local Gas Company are now considering a



Signal cabin at Ipswich railway station.

scheme for the introduction of electricity for illuminating purposes. There is a very

good water service, excellent water being obtained from the Brisbane River at a spot about five miles from Ipswich. The water-



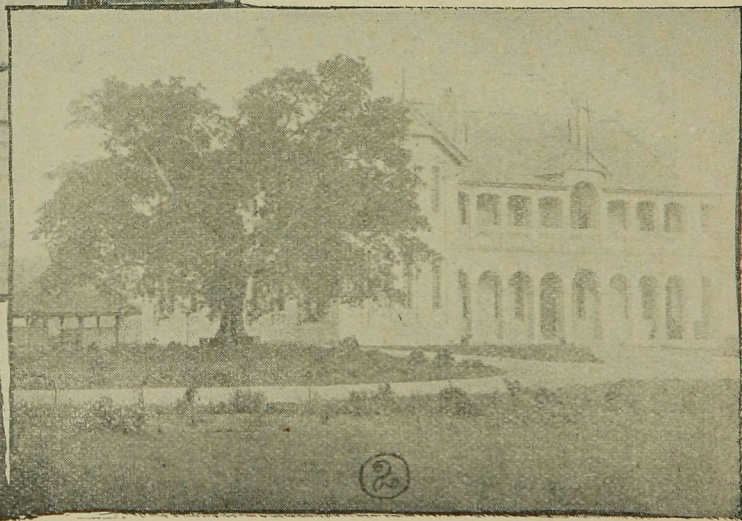
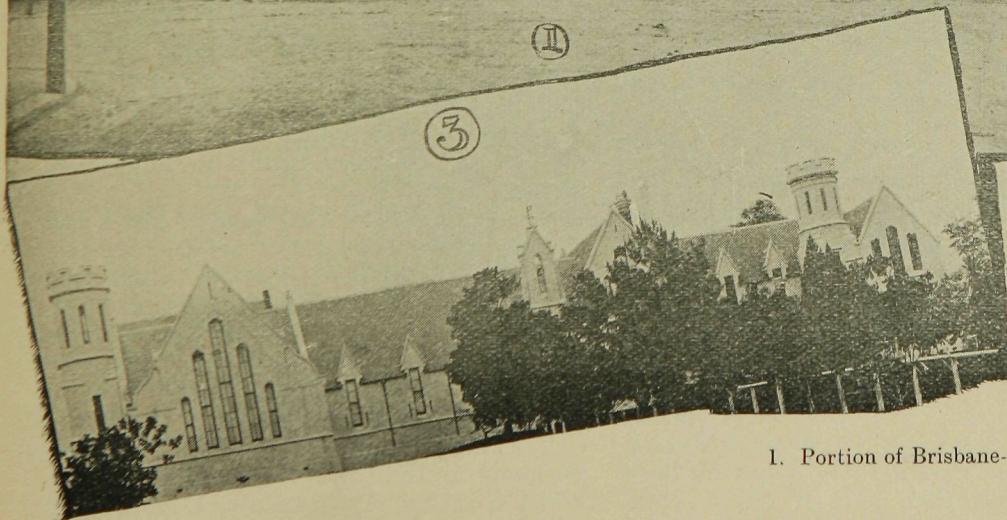
View in Queen's Park.

works were completed on the 25th of June, 1878, and have cost about £60,000. They are under the control of the Municipal Council; and revenue is derived by means of a water-rate levied upon the property-holders benefited by the water supply. The pumping station is located at a rather pretty spot on the right bank of the Brisbane, and, by means of pumps with a capacity of 90,000 gallons in the 24 hours, the water is forced into a reservoir, about a mile distant, which holds close upon 90,000 gallons; thence the liquid gravitates to Ipswich.





The town is well supplied with scholastic institutions. There are two Grammar Schools—a boys' and a girls'; a Christian Brothers' School for boys, and another seminary for girls conducted by the Sisters of Mercy connected with the local Roman Catholic Church; three each of boys' and girls' primary State schools; and two mixed State schools (boys' and girls'), besides several private schools for children of both sexes. It may be stated that the first national school was established in Ipswich on the 16th of June, 1861, by Mr.



1. Portion of Brisbane-street, Ipswich, looking east. 2. Girls' Grammar School.  
3. Boys' Grammar School.





A section of Brisbane-street, Ipswich, viewed from Limestone Hill.

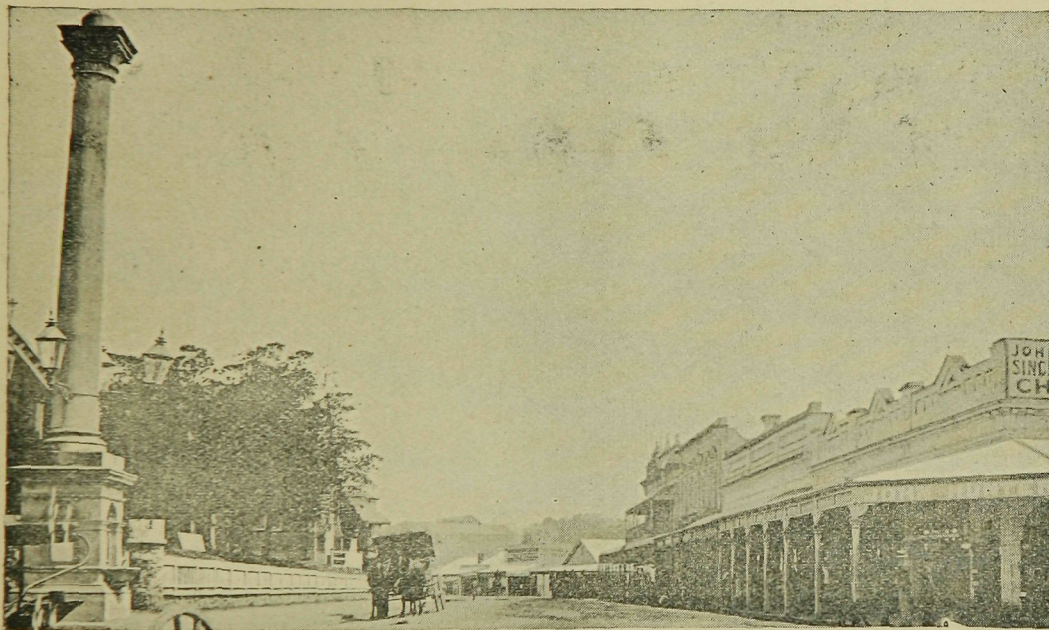
John Scott. The first day's attendance reached only 7, but two months later there were the names of 150 children on the roll. Mr. Scott retired from active service only about a couple of years ago. At one time or another he has had very many of the young men of the town under his tuition. The Boys' Grammar School—the first institution of its kind established in the colony—was founded in 1862. It was erected on a hill to the west of the town at a cost of about £12,000. Since its establishment the school has maintained a highly honourable position amongst similar institutions of the colony. It can ac-

commodate 90 pupils. The present teaching staff comprise Mr. Donald Cameron, M.A., Edin., head master (a position which he has filled with honour for the past 20 years); three assistant-masters—Messrs. A. W. P. Percival, B.A., Oxford, Andrew Muir, and R. A. Wearne, B.A., Sydney; a visiting teacher of music, Mr. R. H. Johnston; and an instructor in carpentry, Mr. G. J. Cole; with Mr. W. Field as secretary. The Girls' Grammar School is a more modern structure, it having been opened in the early part of 1892. It is, like the Boys' School, splendidly situated, having been erected on a limestone ridge

which forms the eastern boundary of the town, the two schools thus occupying opposite eminences—the boys' to the west of the town and the girls' to the east. The Girls' School is a commodious and well-finished building, with tasteful environments in the shape of nicely-kept lawns and flower-beds. In short, the school is an admirable one in every respect, and promises to be a worthy sister institution to the boys' seminary. The teaching staff comprises—Miss F. E. Hunt, B.Sc., Sydney University (head mistress), Miss Maud Connell, M.A., Melbourne University, Miss Elisabeth A. Lance, B.A., Sydney University, Miss Bessie Hancock, and Miss Kate Blaney, and a visiting mistress for music, Mrs. Tubbs. Connected with the local School of Arts is a really first-class library and a well-furnished reading-room, the latter being supplied with the leading newspapers, magazines, and illustrated periodicals. Technical College classes have been conducted in Ipswich for some time past with great success, and there is a prospect of a college building being erected in the near future at a cost of about £2000.

Many of the local churches are imposing edifices, and occupy prominent positions in central parts of the town. Amongst the largest of these sacred buildings are those of the Anglican denomination (St. Paul's on the south side and St. Thomas's on the north side of the river), St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church, three Methodist Churches (one each in the town, North Ipswich, and Newtown), four Congregational (one each in Central Ipswich, North Ipswich, West Ipswich, and Raceview), the Baptist and





Portion of Brisbane-street, Ipswich, looking west.

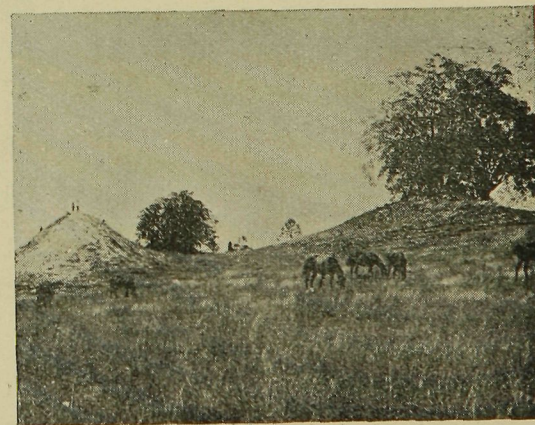
the Lutheran Churches. Connected with several of these public places of worship are Sabbath-school buildings of such dimensions and architectural merit as are not to be found in many places with a much larger population than Ipswich. The Central Ipswich Congregational Sunday-school is a commodious place, and has the distinction of being the finest building of its kind in the Australian colonies. The school buildings connected with the Presbyterian Church, the South Ipswich Methodist Church, and St. Paul's and St. Thomas's Anglican Churches are also imposing structures. Many of the parson-

ages are also substantial buildings, as are likewise the Christian Brothers' residence and the convent connected with the Roman Catholic Church. Most of these places are partially surrounded with well-kept flower-gardens, and have a very picturesque appearance.

Amongst the public institutions of the town is the hospital, erected at a convenient spot on the eastern slope of Denmark Hill, at a cost of £16,000. It comprises several imposing wards or buildings. The two largest buildings, which, like all the wards, are lofty and well-ventilated, stand out conspicuously. One is used exclusively

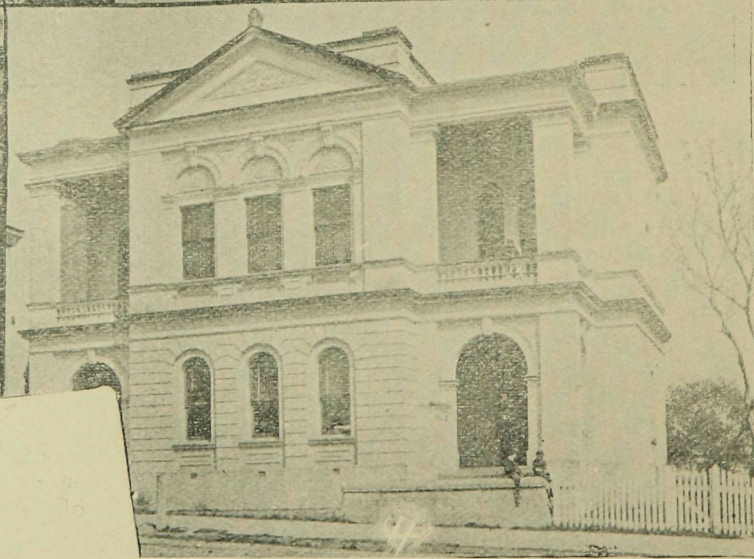
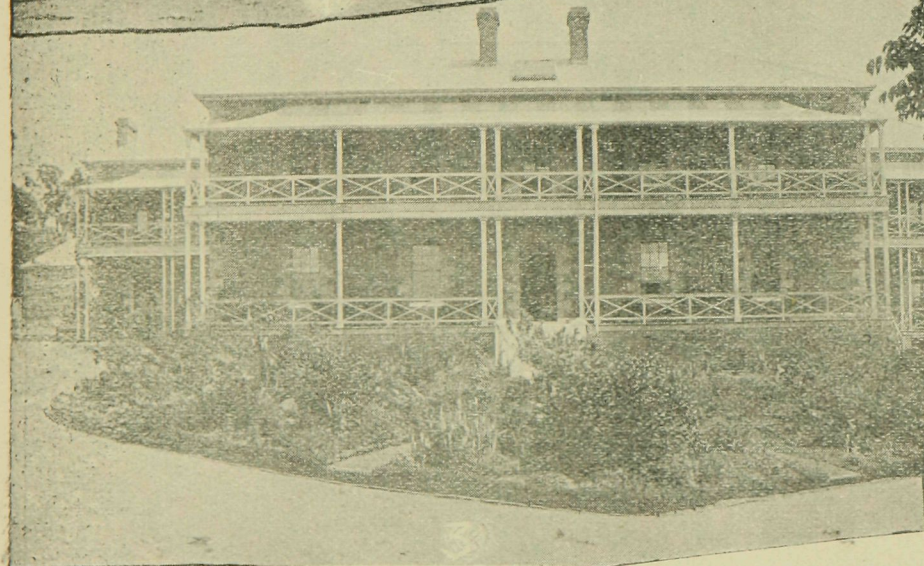
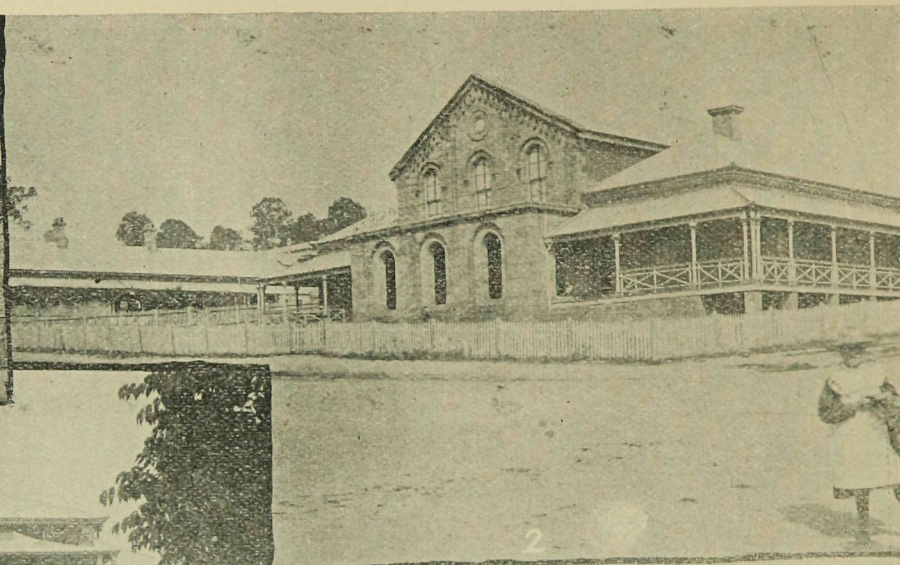
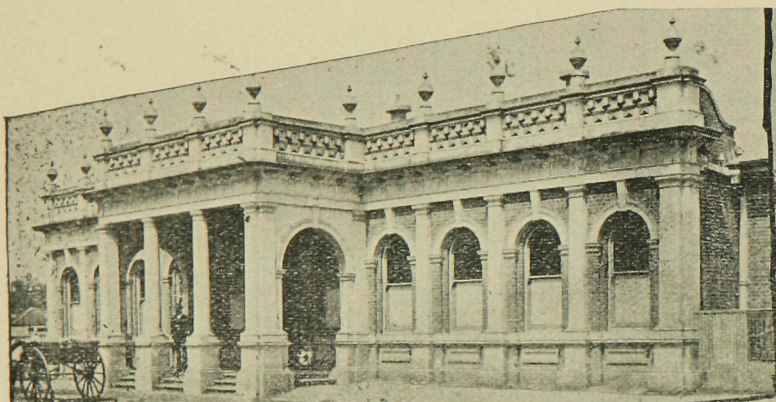
for the accommodation of female sufferers and the other for male patients. The immediate surroundings of the institution are decidedly pretty, and comprise tastefully arranged and carefully attended flower-beds, where seasonable plants are always in blossom. On the grass-covered spots, close by, comfortably constructed seats are placed beneath the overhanging branches of huge trees for the convenience of the convalescent inmates. The hospital is splendidly conducted; indeed, it is reputed to be one of the best-managed institutions of its kind in the colonies.

Included amongst the public buildings are the Court-House, the Lands Office, the Railway Offices, the Railway Station, the Post and Telegraph Offices, &c., all of which are substantial structures. The Post and Telegraph building, although a commodious place, is now too small for the demands made upon it, and tenders



Limestone Hill, Queen's Park.





1. Ipswich Railway Station entrance.    2. Court House and Police Barracks.  
3. Male Ward of Ipswich Hospital.    4. Lands Office.





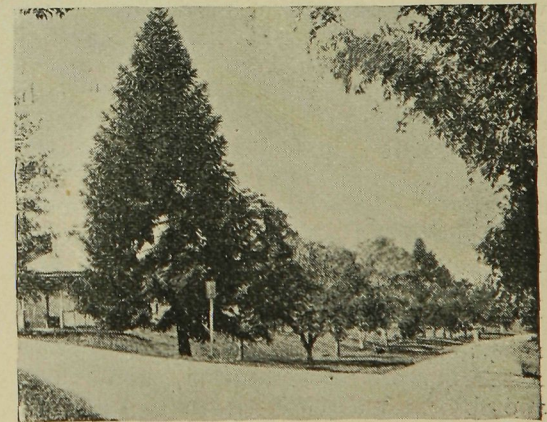
School of Arts and Post and Telegraph Office.

are being invited for the erection of a new structure, which is estimated to cost upwards of £7000. Five banking institutions are represented in the town, and the buildings in which the business is transacted will compare favourably with those of any Australian provincial town. Internally the bank buildings are well furnished, as are also many of the large business establishments. In addition to the handsome public buildings and shops there are numerous charming private residences, with their pretty gardens and orchards; and altogether there is an air of

prosperity and stability about Ipswich which is highly creditable, considering that the town has only just recently turned the half-century of its existence.

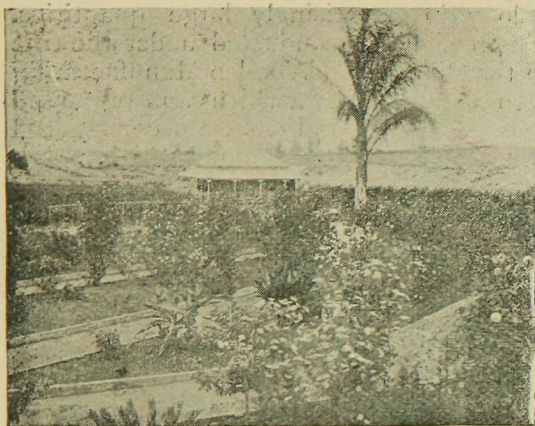
Already the industries of Ipswich are fairly numerous, and, with the many natural advantages at command, it is safe to predict that this progressive town will, in the future, attain the distinction of being the seat of a very large manufacturing and producing trade. Ipswich has the honour of starting the first woollen mill in Queensland, and the tweeds, flannels, blankets, &c., turned out of this excellent manufac-

tory are despatched to all parts of the colony in surprisingly large quantities. The business is conducted under the title of the Queensland Woollen Manufacturing Company, Limited, which was organised in 1876, and operations were commenced in October, 1877. The mill, which covers a considerable area of ground, stands on the banks of the Bremer River. It is fitted with improved modern machinery, and the value of the plant and buildings is shown in the company's books as £47,500, against which there is a reserve fund for depreciation of £9000. At the time of the formation of the company the authorised capital was £10,000, but in subsequent years this was increased to about £75,000, £47,000 of which has been paid up. The output from the mill has grown considerably during recent years. In the year 1896 some 185,933 yards of material were manufactured, the approximate value of which was £18,600. During the present financial

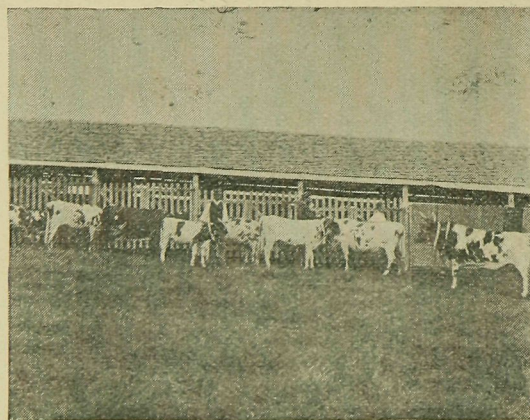


The Rotunda, Queen's Park.

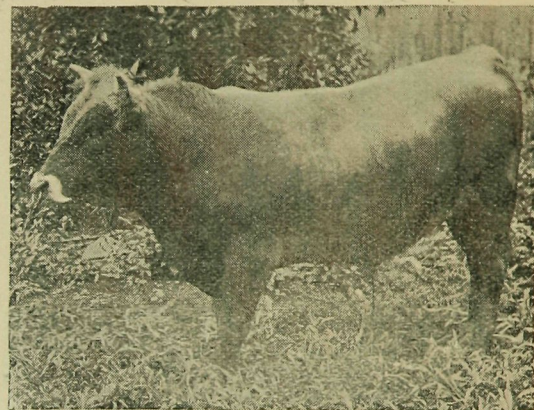




Marsh's Ipswich Nursery.



Cameron and Cameron's Ayrshire Cattle.



Mr. John Mengel's Jersey Bull.

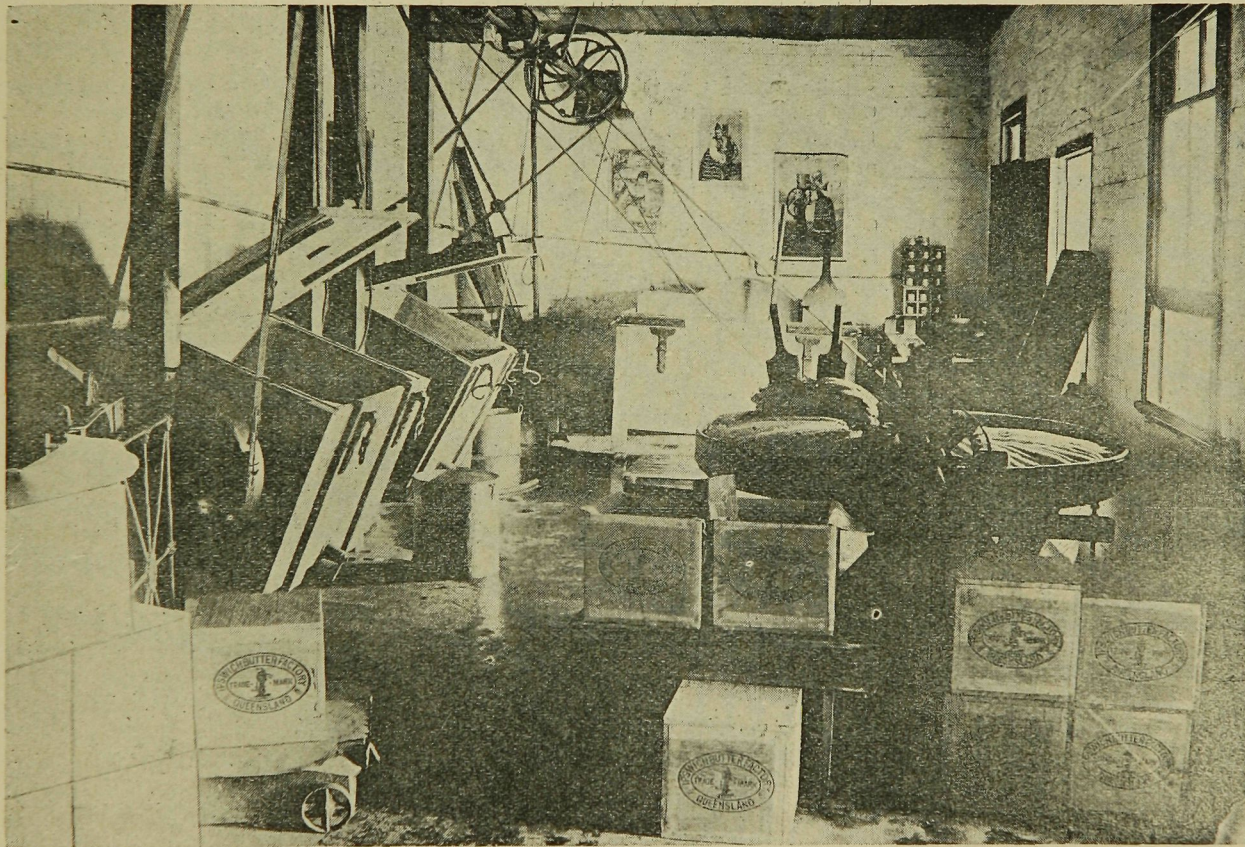
premises, the works are kept going largely by Government contracts for the construction of rolling-stock for the Queensland year of the company the output is expected to reach 344,000 yards, representing a value of £34,000. The increased demand for the company's goods has necessitated the continuous working of the factory, where the hands are engaged at work both in the daytime and at nighttime. In all 180 hands are employed at the mill, which, during the night hours, is lighted with electricity. The clothing factory and local retail shops of the company are located in the central part of the town, where 200 hands are employed, and upwards of 50,000 garments are made up annually. The company has large retail branch shops in Brisbane, Rockhampton, and Toowoomba, and at each of these tailoring staffs are kept. The company pay out over £20,000 annually in wages. The

present members of its directorate are Messrs. W. T. Deacon (Chairman, A. J. Stephenson, M.L.A., Peter Thomson, P. L. Cardew, and E. Harding.

The iron industry also flourishes in Ipswich, and the two principal engineering works in the town—those of the Phoenix Engineering and Rolling-Stock Company and Messrs. S. Shillito and Son—have made considerable expansion in recent years. The Phoenix Company was established nine years ago, and took over the works which up till that time had been carried on by Messrs. Springall and Frost. The foundry, which is conveniently situated at North Ipswich, is a veritable hive of industry, and is fitted up with all the necessary appliances connected with the trade. The value of the plant and buildings is about £10,000. Although every kind of engineering work is done on the railways. At the time of writing the com-

pany hold contracts for the building of 250 waggons for the Railway Department. Between 90 and 100 men find permanent employment at the works, and the annual distribution in wages reaches the sum of £9000. Messrs. Shillito and Son's foundry is situated at the corner of East and Limestone Streets, and here, too, every description of engineering work is done. Mining machinery, agricultural implements, saw-milling machinery, architectural castings, &c., are all numbered among the articles manufactured at the works. This firm also holds a contract from the Railway Department for the construction of a number of hopper-waggons, and they have on several occasions secured big contracts for the supply of architectural and other iron castings for the Railway Department. Like the Phoenix Company, Messrs. Shillito and Son employ a large number of men, and their wages-sheet





North Ipswich Ice and Butter Factory.

aggregates a big sum in the course of a year.

The stimulus which has been given to the dairying industry in the district has led to the establishment of a fairly large butter factory in Ipswich, which is conducted under the name of the North Ips-

wich Ice and Butter Factory. The proprietors are Messrs. Du Rietz and Pommer, both of whom thoroughly understand the business, having been experts in the butter trade in Sweden before coming out to Australia. The cream for the factory is obtained from local creameries, and there is

every facility on the premises for producing a really superior article. The greatest care is taken in the preparation of the butter for market, it being recognised that only the best quality is good enough to secure a satisfactory and permanent trade. The article from the factory commands





Moreton Bay Fig Trees.

more than a local market. It is in great demand throughout Queensland, particularly in the northern part of the colony. In the summer months the firm also dispose of, locally, a considerable quantity of ice.

The Booval Brewery Company, Limited, is an enterprise which was recently started by a few of the local residents. The brewery is situated about two miles from

Ipswich, in the eastern suburb of Booval. The water which is used for brewing purposes is obtained from a spring that was tapped by the sinking of a well to a depth of 25ft. Operations were commenced in the early part of last spring, and have been actively carried on ever since. Already the "brew" has acquired a standard of excellence which ensures for it a ready sale.

Amongst the many commercial houses doing business in Ipswich are a few whose establishment dates back to the very early days of the colony's history, and these may be classed amongst the leading houses in the colony. It is exactly half-a-century since the late Mr. Benjamin Cribb commenced business in Ipswich. Subsequently he was joined by the late Hon. J. C. Foote, and these two gentlemen founded the now well-known firm of Cribb and Foote. The extensive and well-appointed establishment which is the outcome of that partnership is now being successfully conducted by the sons of the deceased gentlemen. The firm can lay claim to a long career of commercial distinction and prosperity such as very few other business houses in Australia enjoy. Step by step has the firm advanced, and the expansion of its trade connections has been commensurate with the general advancement of the district and the colony. Messrs. Cribb and Foote are "universal providers," and for many

years past they have occupied the honoured position of being one of the largest firms of importers and traders not only in the colony but in Australasia. Messrs. Geo. H. Wilson and Co. are also an old firm of merchants, whose business connections are extensive, and who have been established in Ipswich since 1853. Their principal business premises are situated at the corner of East and Limestone Streets, where they carry on operations as general merchants in both the wholesale and retail branches.

The Press of Ipswich and West Moreton is represented by the following publications:—"Queensland Times" (tri-weekly), "Standard" (bi-weekly), "Fassifern Chronicle" (weekly), "Railway Times" (monthly), "Fraternity" (monthly), and "Lockyer Star" (tri-weekly). The "Queensland Times" is the oldest and largest of these newspapers, having been established on the 4th of July, 1859. It is an admirably-conducted journal, and is the principal paper circulating in the West Moreton district, in addition to which it has a large general circulation. In brief, Ipswich, with its imposing buildings, well-stocked shops, charming residences, public recreation grounds and gardens, surrounded as it is by an extensive and resourceful district, is not only picturesque but prosperous, and has the reputation of being financially one of the soundest towns in the colony.



# Acquisition of Land from the Queensland Government.

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## "THE LAND ACT, 1897."

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**Agricultural Farms**, up to 1280 acres at from 10s. per acre; term of 20 years; annual payments of one-fortieth of price; balance at any time after 5th year; conditions of occupation and improvements.

**Agricultural Homesteads**, up to 640 acres at 2s. 6d. per acre; term of 10 years; annual payments of 3d. per acre; balance at any time after 5th year; conditions of personal occupation and improvements.

**Grazing Selections**, up to 20,000 acres at from  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per acre per annum rent; term of 14, 21, or 28 years; conditions of occupation and fencing.

**Scrub Selections**, up to 10,000 acres at from peppercorn rent; term of 30 years; conditions of clearing and fencing.

**Unconditional Selections**, up to 1280 acres at from 13s. 4d. per acre; payable in twenty annual instalments.

**Auction Purchase**, at from 20s. per acre for agricultural land and from 10s. per acre for other land; terms up to three years.

**Occupation Licenses**, on annual tenancy.

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The Colony is, as far as necessary, divided into Land Agents' Districts, in each of which there is a Public Land Office and a Government Land Agent, to whom all inquiries respecting the situation, quality, rents, and prices of lands available for selection in his district should be addressed, and from whom plans can be obtained. Connected with the Survey Department, in Brisbane, there is an office for the exhibition and sale of maps, and there full information respecting lands open for selection throughout the Colony may be had.

The several modes in which land may be acquired are—(1) by Agricultural Selection—*i.e.*, Agricultural Farms and Agricultural Homesteads; (2) Grazing Selections—*i.e.*, Grazing Farms and Grazing Homesteads; (3) Scrub Selections; and (4) Unconditional Selections. The more accessible lands near lines of railway, centres of population, and navigable waters are set apart for agricultural selection in areas up to 1280 acres, while opportunities of acquiring grazing selections in areas up to 20,000 acres are given over a great extent of Queensland territory within accessible distance of the seaboard and the various lines of railway.

Except in the case of Scrub Selections and Unconditional Selections, no person who is not a British subject by birth or naturalisation, or who is under the age of 16 years, or who seeks to acquire the land as the agent or servant or trustee of another, will be allowed to select. A married woman is not competent to select an Agricultural Homestead or a Grazing Homestead, unless the disqualification is removed by the Land Court in the case of a married woman who has obtained an order for judicial separation or an order protecting her separate property, or who is living apart from her husband.

Applications for selections must be made in the prescribed form, in triplicate, and be lodged with the Land Agent for the district within which the land is situated. They must be signed by the applicant, but may be lodged in the Land Office by his duly-constituted attorney, and must be accompanied by a deposit of a year's rent and one-fifth of the survey fee. Applications lodged prior to the time proclaimed as that at which land is to be open for selection are regarded as simultaneous with those lodged at the time of opening.

Where land is open for different modes of selection alternately, priority among simultaneous applications for the same land is given to an application for it as an Agricultural Homestead as against an application for it as an Agricultural Farm; to an application for it as an Agricultural Farm as against an application for it as an Unconditional Selection; and, if the land is open for Grazing Selection, to an application for it as a Grazing Homestead as against an application for it as a Grazing Farm.

Priority among simultaneous applications for the same land by the same mode of selection is determined by lot, unless, in the case of simultaneous applications for the same land as a Grazing Selection or an Unconditional Selection, a higher rental is tendered than that proclaimed. In that event, the highest tender secures priority.

When an application has been accepted by the Land Commissioner, and approved by the Court, and the applicant has paid for any improvements that may be on the land, he becomes entitled to receive a license to occupy the land in the case of an Agricultural Selection or a Grazing Selection, or a lease in the case of a Scrub Selection or an Unconditional Selection. Within six months after the issue of a license the selector must commence to occupy the land, and must thereafter continue to occupy it in the manner prescribed.



# EMIGRATION TO QUEENSLAND.

**Nominated Passengers.** Permanent residents in Queensland wishing to obtain passages for their friends or relatives in the United Kingdom or the Continent of Europe may do so under the provisions of the Immigration Act, by making payments to the Immigration Agent in Brisbane, or the Assistant Immigration Agents, Maryborough, Bundaberg, Rockhampton, Mackay, or Townsville, or to the Clerks of Petty Sessions at any other town in the Colony upon the following scale:—

MALES, between one and twelve years, £2; between twelve and forty, £4; over forty and under fifty-five, £8.

FEMALES, between one and twelve, £1; between twelve and forty, £2; over forty and under fifty-five, £8.

MALES or FEMALES, fifty-five and upwards, the full passage money—£13 13s.

**Assisted Passengers.** The Agent-General for Queensland (whose address is Westminster Chambers, No. 1 Victoria-street, London, S.W.), will entertain applications for some assistance towards the total cost of passage from small capitalist Farmers, Market Gardeners, Dairymen, and Orchardists—especially in the case of those having families. Full particulars as to the occupations of the head and members of the family, their available Capital, and intentions as to pursuit on landing, &c., should be forwarded with the application, and each case will be considered on its merits. Whatever money contributions it may be decided to grant towards the cost of passage may apply to the case of persons wishing to proceed to the Colony either as second-class or as steerage passengers.

**Full-Paying Passengers.** Any person, whose application for an assisted passage cannot be entertained, may, as heretofore, avail himself of the third-class passenger rate, namely—£13 13s. (including “ship kit”) granted by the British India Company’s direct line of Steamers from London to Queensland.

**Free Passengers.** Female Domestic Servants and Farm Labourers will be granted Free Passages to Queensland upon the approval of the Agent General for Queensland in London (whose address is Westminster Chambers, No. 1 Victoria-street, London, S.W.), and forms of application setting forth the terms and conditions upon which such passages will be granted may be obtained by communication with the office of the Agent-General, who must be thoroughly satisfied with the character and *bona fides* of each applicant. The only outlay to be incurred by the Emigrant will be the cost of transit from his place of residence to the port of embarkation, and also the charge for “ship kit,” viz., £1.

**Reception in the Colony.** All Emigrants, as enumerated above, will be accommodated, Free of all expense, at the Immigration Dépôt at the port of arrival for 14 days, or such period as may enable them to complete their arrangements, and they will further be entitled to receive a free pass to any part of the Colony where a railway line exists.

**Queensland as a Home.** The Climate is healthy and entirely free from rigorous extremes. The Soil, in many parts, is Rich and Productive, and equal to anything to be found in the world. A Splendid System of National Education prevails throughout the Colony which is absolutely free to all classes. Freehold Farms of from 160 acres to 640 acres, according to quality of soil and distance from market, can be bought at the rate of 2s. 6d. per acre, the purchase money being payable in yearly instalments of 3d. per acre, and extending over a period of Ten Years.

**Wages.** Farm Servants command from £35 to £50 per annum. Married Couples command up to £80 per annum. Female Domestic Servants (including Cooks, Housemaids, General Servants, and Dairymaids), from 8s. to 25s. per week. (In all above cases “Board and Lodging” is found.)

*Immigration Office, Brisbane, 6th March, 1899.*

**J. O’N. BRENNAN,** IMMIGRATION AGENT.

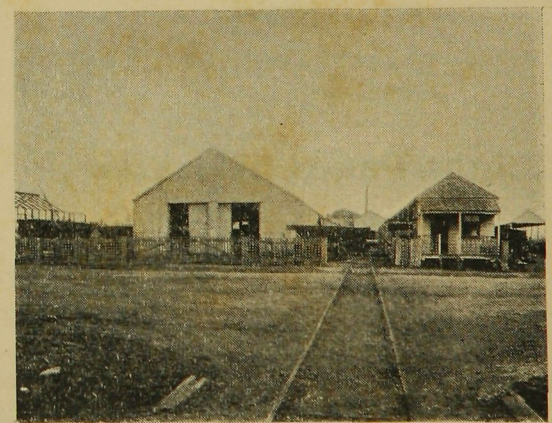
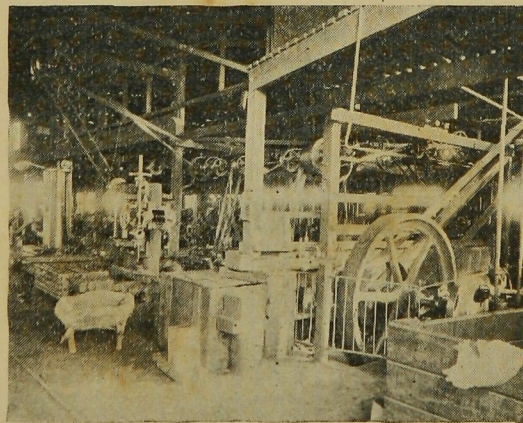
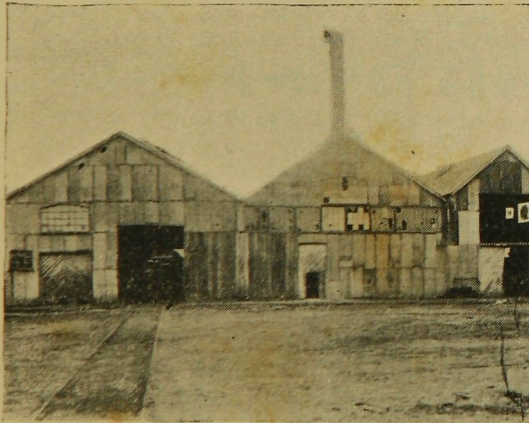


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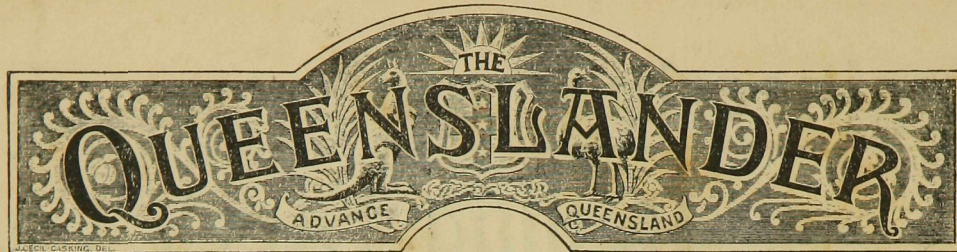
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